THE MELANCHOLY of HARUHI SUZUMIYA

17

ART BY GAKU TSUGANO

STORY BY NAGARU TANIGAWA

CHARACTERS BY: NOIZI ITO

Kadokawa Comics A

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Yen Press

One weekend, when Kyon reaches the usual SOS Brigade rendezvous spot, he is met not by his fellow club members, but instead by Sasaki, an old friend from middle school. Haruhi isn't thrilled to find Kyon already waiting when she arrives (Who's going to buy drinks?!) and is even less thrilled by his attractive female friend!

US $13.00 CAN $14.00

ISBN 978-0-316-32234-8

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OLDER TEEN OT LV

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I DOUBTED THE SOS BRIGADE WOULD GET ANY MORE MEMBERS THAN IT ALREADY HAD.
...HOW ANNOYING THINGS WERE GOING TO GET.
THE CUL-PRIT WAS OB-VIOUS.
THIS WAS ALL THE DOING OF HARUHI SUZU-MIYA.
MY PRE-DICTION WAS HALF-RIGHT AND HALF-WRONG.
BUT AT THE TIME, I HAD NO IDEA...

TOKYO 55
MADRID 973
WATCH FOR ANIMALS
NEXT
17
THE MELANCHOLY of HARUHI SUZUMIYA
ORIGINAL STORY
NAGARU TANIGAWA
MANGA
GAKU TSUGANO
CHARACTER DESIGN:
NOIZI ITO

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'TIS THE SECOND ANNUAL FLOWER-VIEWING PARTY!

BI (FLICK)

GREETINGS, MY FRIENDS! I HAVE ONCE AGAIN BROUGHT TIDINGS OF AN INVITATION!

LAST TIME WE HAD A LOOK AT THE YOSHINO FLOWERS.

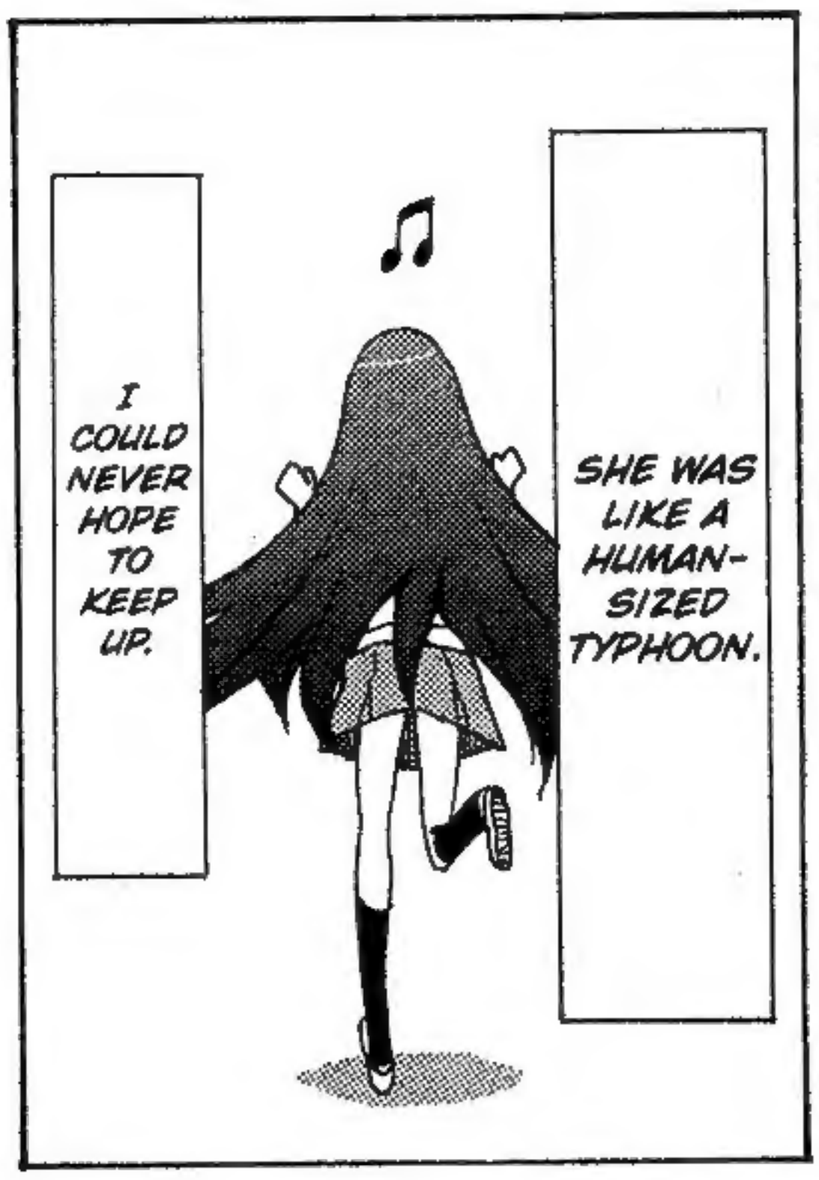
BUT THIS TIME IT'S ALL ABOUT THE YAEZAKURA BLOSSOMS!

BACK IN THE OLD DAYS, THAT'S WHAT THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT WHEN THEY SAID "CHERRY BLOSSOMS"!

IT WAS FRIDAY, THE DAY AFTER WE'D MET THE NEW STUDENTS.

TSURUYA TOLD US THE FLOWER-VIEWING PARTY WOULD BE HELD DURING THE NEXT GOLDEN WEEK.

NOTE: TSURUYA AND HARUHI ARE QUOTING A POEM BY POET ISE NO TAIFU.



ARMBAND: CHIEF

THIS SATURDAY! TOMORROW!

TO SEARCH FOR MYSTERIES THAT ARE GONNA SHOW UP REAL SOON NOW!

WE'RE ALL MEETING IN FRONT OF THE STATION AT 9 A.M.!

SHUPA (SHWP)

長

THEY'RE MYSTERIES, NOT CATS.

OOMPH!

IT'S SPRING, AFTER ALL!

AND THE WEATHER'S WARMING UP, SO THAT'LL MAKE THEM EASIER TO CATCH.

LOOK, KYON.

PRETTY SOON IT'S GOING TO BE A YEAR SINCE I STARTED THE CLUB.

SO FAR, WE'VE GOT EXACTLY NOTHING TO SHOW FOR A YEAR'S WORTH OF EFFORT.

KATA (TAP)

KATA

KATA

ARMBAND: CHIEF

JIRORI (GLARE)

THAT'S A SECRET.

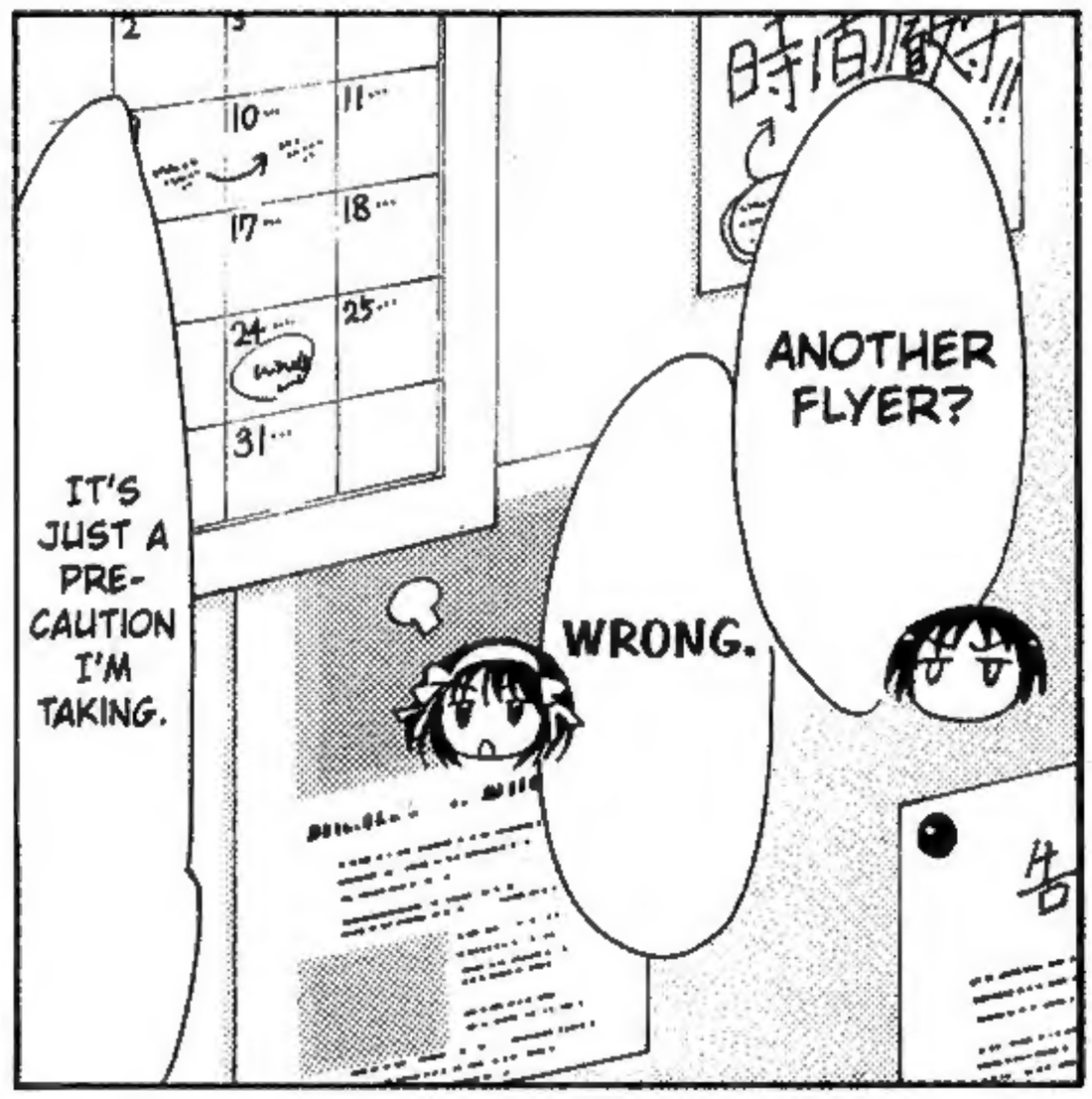
CLAS-SIFIED INFOR-MATION.

IF IT GETS OUTSIDE THE BRIGADE, I'M BLAMING YOU.

WHAT'RE YOU DOING THERE ANYWAY?

UPDAT-ING THE WEB-SITE?

WHAT, ARE YOU WORRIED?
A-HA, YOU DO WANT A FRESHMAN TO JOIN UP.


IT'S JUST A PRE-CAUTION I'M TAKING.
ANOTHER FLYER?
WRONG.

"BRIGADEER NUMBER ONE" OR "FIRST UNDERLING" —PICK ONE!
TEE HEE HEE!
WELL, IF YOU WANT A TITLE THAT BADLY, I'LL THINK ONE UP FOR YOU.

...
THERE ARE NO PLAYS LEFT TO MAKE. I RESIGN.
GOODNESS, I THINK I'M BEATEN!

TOMOR-ROW, EH?

HOPEFULLY NOTHING WILL HAPPEN.

Bye!

TRY TO SHOW UP BEFORE I DO FOR ONCE!

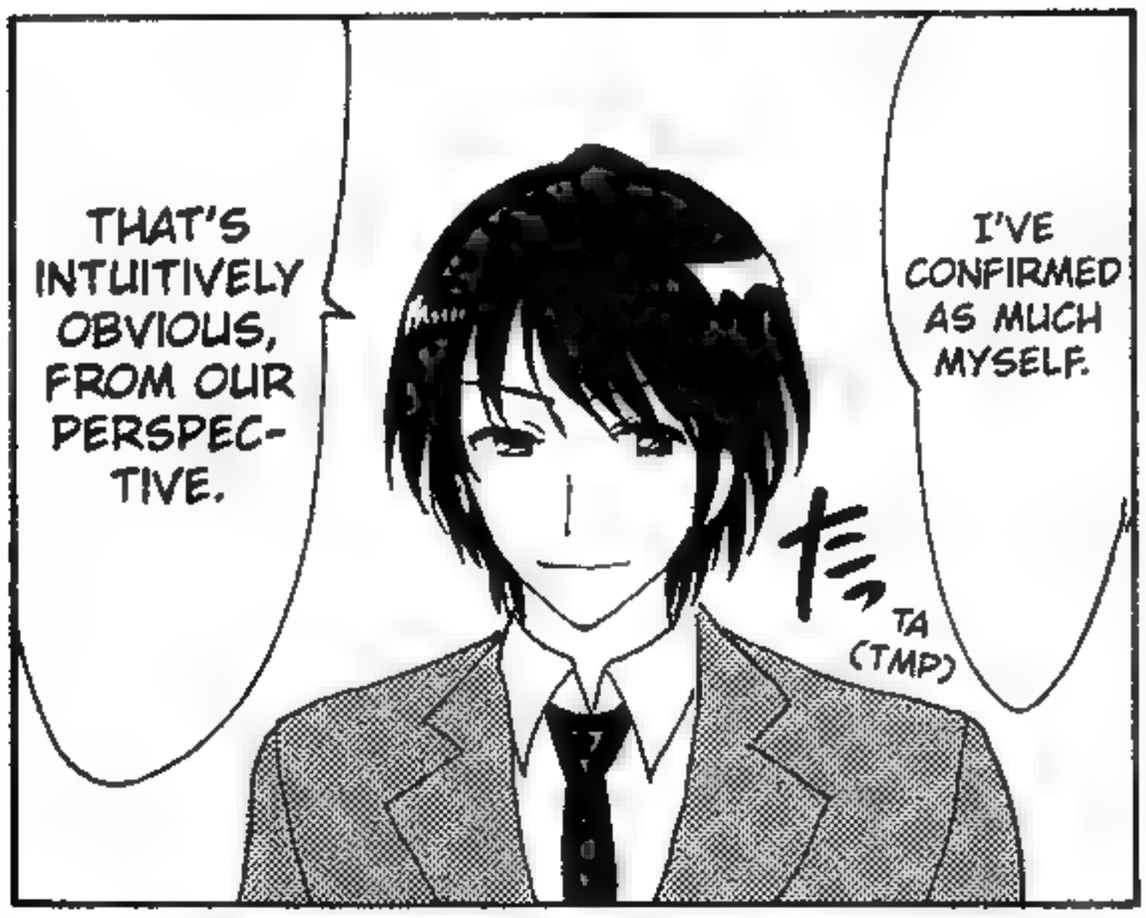
SEE YOU TOMOR-ROW!

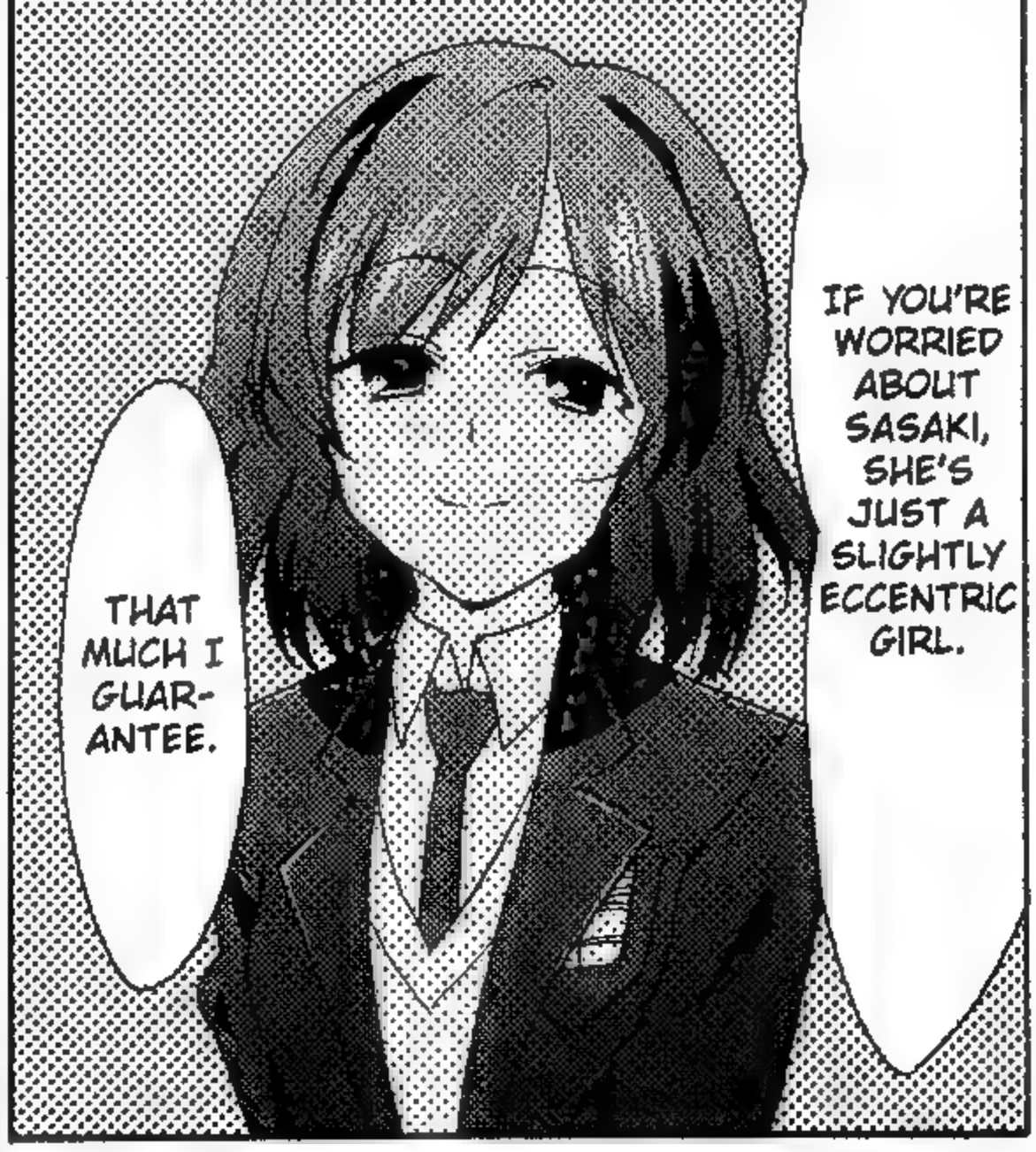
WITH LUCK, THE RECENT OCCURRENCES OF CLOSED SPACE WERE A FLUKE.

NO CHANGE AT THE MOMENT.

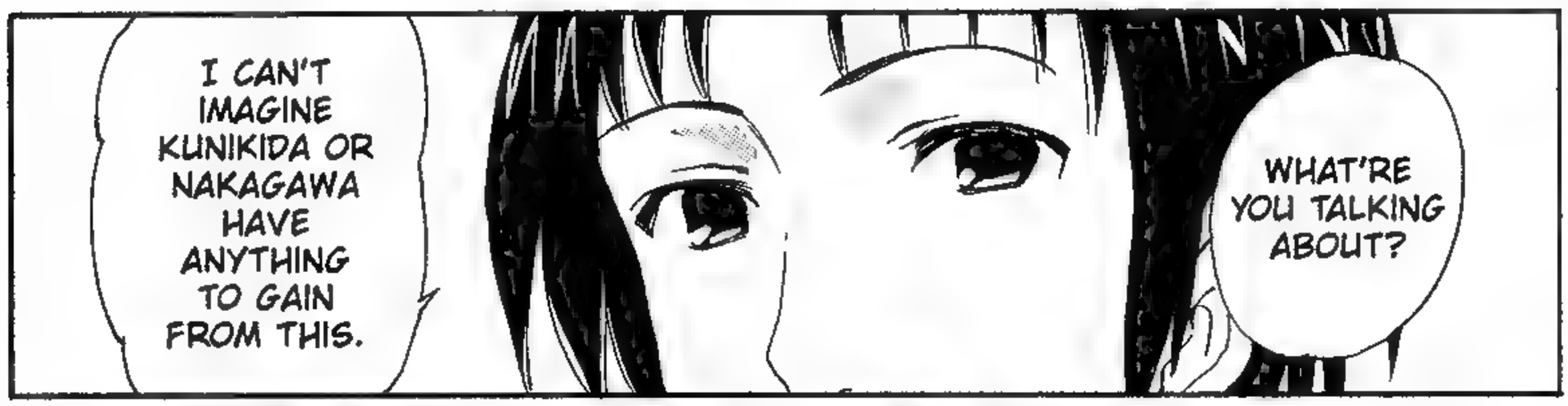
HOW'RE THINGS GOING?

I MAY BE WORRYING OVER NOTHING.


THAT'S INTUITIVELY OBVIOUS, FROM OUR PERSPECTIVE.
I'VE CONFIRMED AS MUCH MYSELF.
たっ TA (TMP)


THAT MUCH I GUARANTEE.
IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT SASAKI, SHE'S JUST A SLIGHTLY ECCENTRIC GIRL.

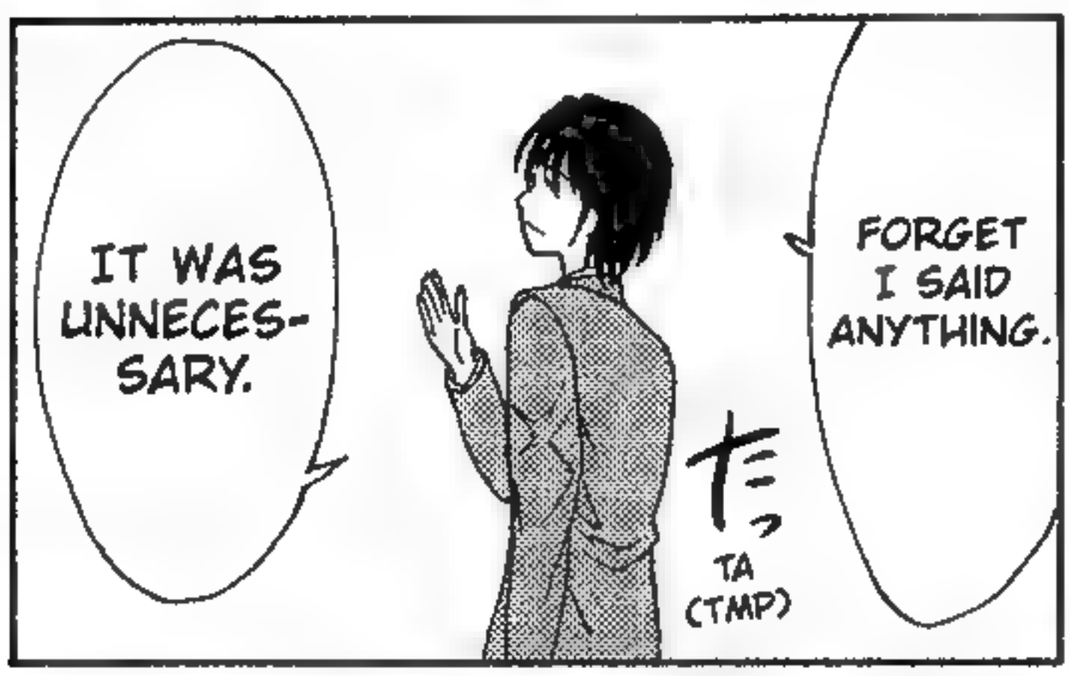
AS WELL AS THOSE WHO WOULD DELIBERATELY ABUSE THAT DISAGREEMENT.
WHAT I'M WORRIED ABOUT ARE THOSE WHO MIGHT DISAGREE.


I CAN'T IMAGINE KUNIKIDA OR NAKAGAWA HAVE ANYTHING TO GAIN FROM THIS.
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

MY POINTLESS WORRY IS NO CONCERN OF YOURS.
...NO, FORGET IT.
OH, THOSE TWO ARE HARMLESS.
HOWEVER ...

IT BETTER NOT.
FUN (HMPH)

OH, YOU CAN RELAX ON ONE COUNT.
SASAKI-SAN WILL NOT BE HARMED.
THE AGENCY WILL TAKE NO SUCH ACTION.


IT WAS UNNECES-SARY.
FORGET I SAID ANYTHING.
TA (TMP)

MY APOL-OGIES.
I WAS MERELY ATTEMPTING TO DISPEL YOUR CONCERNS.
HEH...

...OR SO I THOUGHT.
OF COURSE IT WOULDN'T.
HE HOPED "NOTHING WOULD HAPPEN"?

WE JUST HADN'T NOTICED YET.
THINGS WERE ALREADY HAPPENING.
KOIZUMI HAD BEEN NAIVE.
ALL OF US HAD ALREADY BEEN TOSSED INTO THE MAELSTROM.
REGARDLESS OF WHETHER I KNEW THEM OR NOT...
...EVERYONE WAS INVOLVED.
AND IT WASN'T JUST THE SOS BRIGADE.

BUT IT WOULD TAKE MORE TIME FOR ME TO REALIZE THAT.

SAT-URDAY MORN-ING.

9 A.M. IN FRONT OF THE STA-TION.

TO (TMP)

TO

THINGS WERE JUST BEGIN-NING TO MOVE.

BUT AN OMEN OF WHAT WAS COMING WOULD HAPPEN THAT DAY.

WAS IT JUST AN OMEN?

OR WAS IT A PREDES-TINED COINCI-DENCE ...?

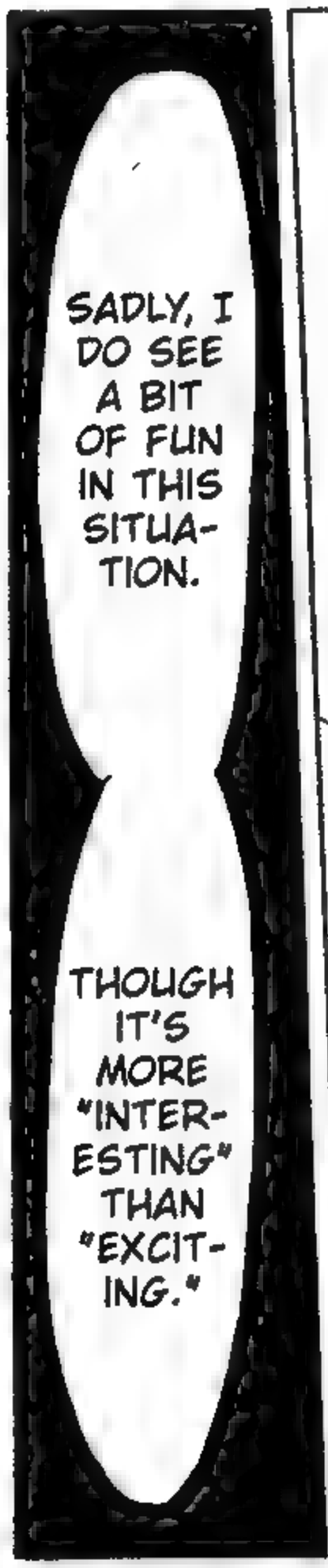
SHAAAAA (FWSHHH)

WE MEET AGAIN.
I'M GENUINELY PLEASED.

HEYA, KYON.

FUU (WHEW) ふう
PLENTY OF TIME.
I'VE STILL GOT HALF AN HOUR.

YOU ...!


SADLY, I DO SEE A BIT OF FUN IN THIS SITUATION.
THOUGH IT'S MORE "INTERESTING" THAN "EXCITING."

トン TON (TMP)
ALTHOUGH YOU MIGHT NOT BE.

HELLO.

SORRY FOR NOT KEEPING IN TOUCH!

HOW'S YOUR LITTLE TIME TRAVELER, ASAHINA-SAN?

SHE KIDNAPPED ASAHINA-SAN...

SHE'S THE ONE THAT SHOWED UP WITH THAT OTHER TIME-TRAVELING GUY!

HOW...

...CAN SHE SAY THAT WITH A STRAIGHT FACE?

LET ME INTRO-DUCE YOU, KYON.
SHE'S AN...
...AC-QUAIN-TANCE, LET'S SAY.

AW, DON'T MAKE THAT FACE.
WE'VE STOPPED DOING THAT STUFF, YOU KNOW.

I'VE JUST COME TO KNOW HER AND HAVEN'T SHARED ENOUGH DISCOURSE TO CALL HER A FRIEND YET.
BUT SHE SAYS THE MOST FASCINATING THINGS SOMETIMES.

...OUR ENEMY.
SASAKI ...
...YOU SHOULDN'T HANG OUT WITH JERKS LIKE HER...
SHE'S ...
BY YOUR FACE, I GUESS YOU'VE MET HER BEFORE.
AND IT PROB-ABLY WASN'T A VERY GOOD MEETING.
JUST A GUESS.

SHE'S TOLD ME THE MOST AMAZING THINGS.

THEY'RE A BIT HARD FOR ME TO UNDERSTAND, BUT...

BUT SHE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE MY ENEMY.

WHICH IS RATHER INTERESTING.

...BUT I CAN RECOGNIZE THEM— SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

I CAN'T ACCEPT THEM...

...JUST THINKING ABOUT THEM IS A NICE DIVERSION.

THERE'S ONE MORE PERSON I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET.

AND KYON.

SO I FIGURED WHY NOT INTRODUCE YOU...

SHE TOLD ME SHE WISHED TO OCCUPY A SHARED SPACE OF A RADIUS OF TWO METERS WITH YOU.

I GOT THE FEELING THAT IF I LEFT HER ALONE, SHE'D BE EVEN MORE OF A PROBLEM FOR YOU.

PA (WHAP)

SHE'S... WELL...

UUU (WHOOO)

NOT STRANGE, EXACTLY...

...MORE LIKE QUEER.

UUUUU

DOUN (LOOM)
EVEN A GLANCE AT THIS GIRL WOULD'VE BEEN UNFORGETTABLE.
IT WAS ABSOLUTELY THE FIRST TIME I'D MET HER.
IT SEEMED SOMEHOW FAMILIAR...
BUT WHAT WAS THIS AVALANCHE CHILL THAT I FELT?
WHO ARE YOU?

... MOVES VERY SLOWLY.
...IN THIS PLACE ...
... TIME ...
I AM— AN OB-SERVER ...
AH ...
I AM...
YOU ARE... HE.
... THERE IS NO MIS-TAKE.
THE TEMPER-ATURE... TIRESOME.
THIS TIME ...
SUOH KUYOH.
SUOH ... KUYOH ...

DEFINITELY NOT HUMAN!

SHE WAS A GHOST...OR SOMETHING ELSE!

SHE'S NOT SICK, THOUGH.

THAT'S JUST THE WAY SHE IS.

SHE DOESN'T REALLY UNDERSTAND THE IDEA OF INDIVIDUALITY.

SHE'S ALWAYS LIKE THAT, KYON.

INTER-ESTING, ISN'T SHE?

NAGATO?

WAIT—

TRYING TO TALK TO HER WAS WAY WORSE THAN TRYING TO TALK TO NAGATO.

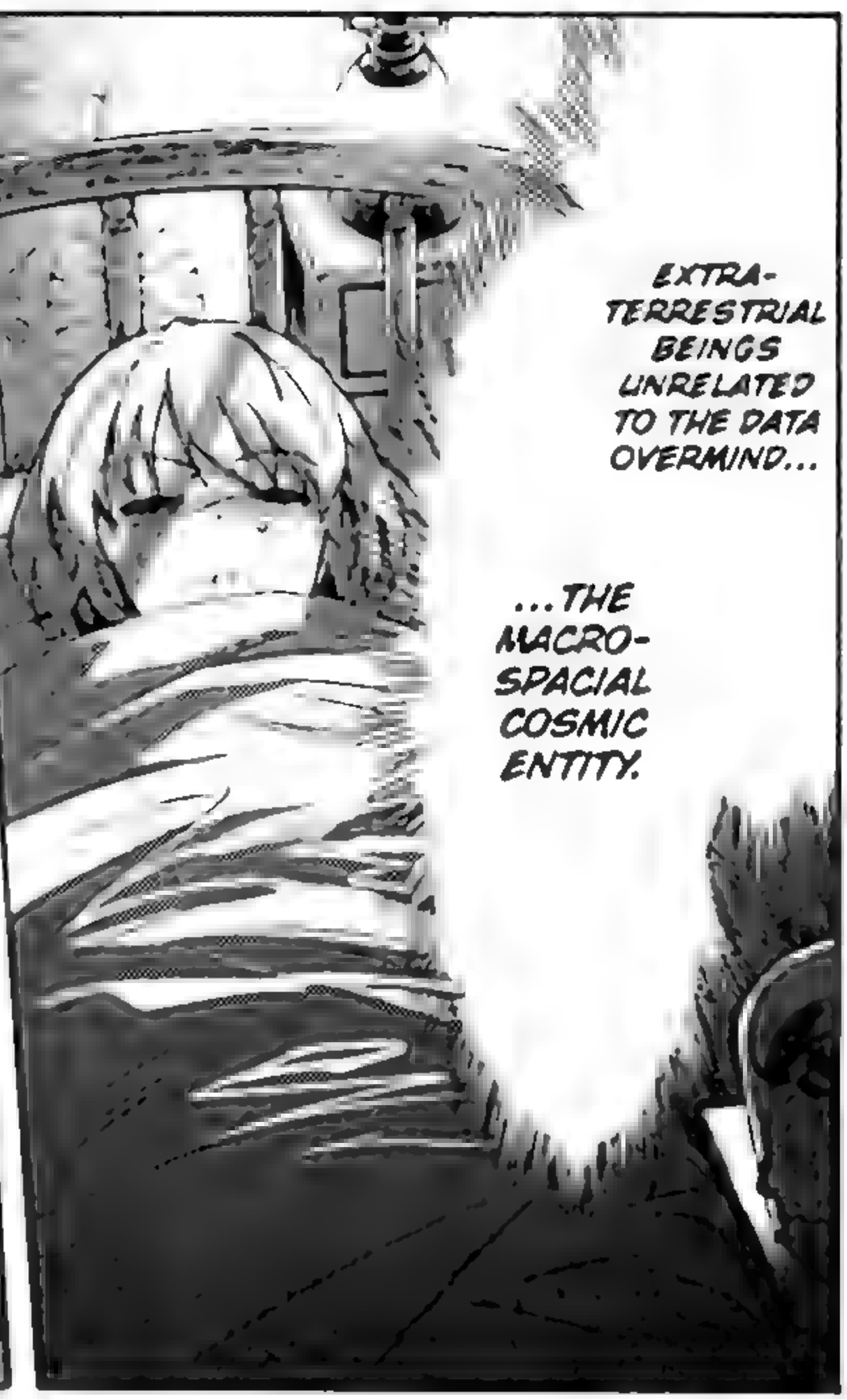
STILL...

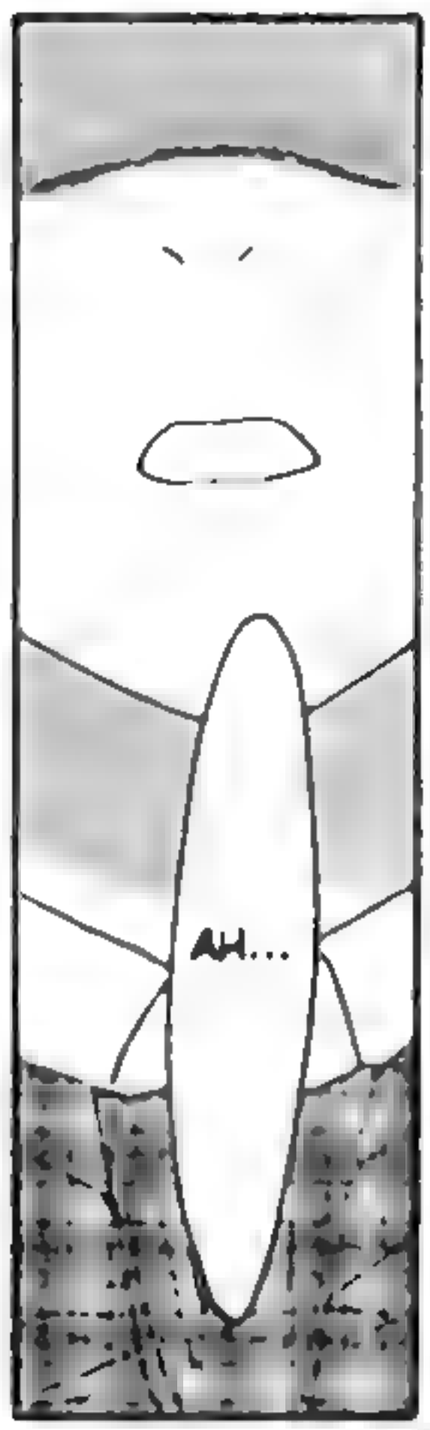
NAGATO GOT A FEVER AND COLLAPSED, AND THEN I FELT SOME KIND OF...

GOOOOOOO (WHOOOOSH)

THAT PHANTOM MANSION THAT APPEARED DURING OUR WINTER TRIP...

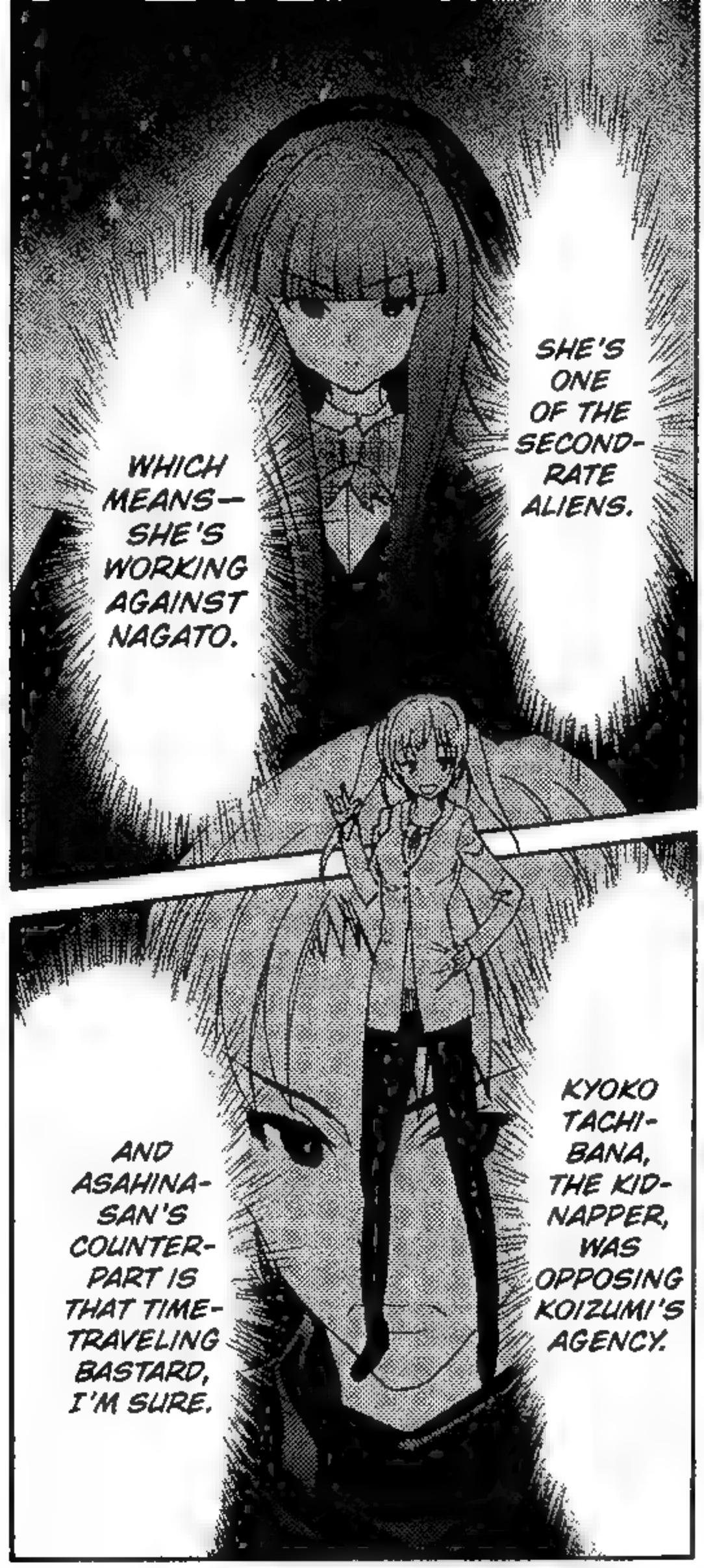
(WHOOO)
I SEE.
SO IT'S YOU. THE OTHER ALIENS, NOT LIKE NAGATO.


EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL BEINGS UNRELATED TO THE DATA OVERMIND...
...THE MACRO-SPACIAL COSMIC ENTITY.


AH...

DON'T PLAY GAMES WITH ME.

IS THAT ?
WHAT
ALIENS ?


WHICH MEANS— SHE'S WORKING AGAINST NAGATO.
SHE'S ONE OF THE SECOND-RATE ALIENS.
AND ASAHINA-SAN'S COUNTER-PART IS THAT TIME-TRAVELING BASTARD, I'M SURE.
KYOKO TACHI-BANA, THE KID-NAPPER, WAS OPPOSING KOIZUMI'S AGENCY.

A PER-FECTLY MEANING-LESS LINE...
—CON-CLUSION:
YOUR ... EYES ...
...ARE... BEAU-TIFUL...

THAT'S WHAT YOU WOULD SAY, KYON.
BUT THEY'RE ALL I HAVE.

YOU'VE GOT SOME WEIRD FRIENDS, SASAKI.
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN GETTING TO KNOW THEM.

YOU...
...DO YOU KNOW WHAT THESE GUYS REALLY ARE?

UNFOR-TUNATELY, I'M NOT A NORTH HIGH STUDENT.
NOBODY ELSE WOULD GET CLOSE TO ME.

AND IT WAS QUITE A STORY TOO.
THEY MADE ME LISTEN, AFTER ALL.
I DO.

SEEMS CLOSER TO TRIPLE TROUBLE THAN IT DOES TO THREE OF A KIND.
A LIMITED SUPER-HUMAN.
AN EXTRA-TERRES-TRIAL HUMAN-OID INTRUD-ER.
KUH KUH...
AND A TIME TRAVELER, I BELIEVE.

BUT YOUR REAC-TION CINCHES IT.
THEY'RE THE GENUINE ARTICLE.

HASN'T IT BEEN LONG ENOUGH?

BUT IT WAS ALWAYS GOING TO TURN OUT LIKE THIS.

HE SAID HE WAS GOING TO SKIP THIS "RIDICULOUS ERRAND."

EVEN THOUGH THAT'S JUST GOING TO DRAG THINGS OUT.

SO I SUPPOSE THIS MEANS THAT TIME-TRAVELING BASTARD'S HERE TOO?

WHERE IS HERE?

DON'T YOU THINK?

A PRIOR ENGAGEMENT?

BAN (BAM)

...WHAT'S THIS?

I WAS ABOUT TO COMPLIMENT YOU FOR MANAGING TO ARRIVE EARLY, BUT...

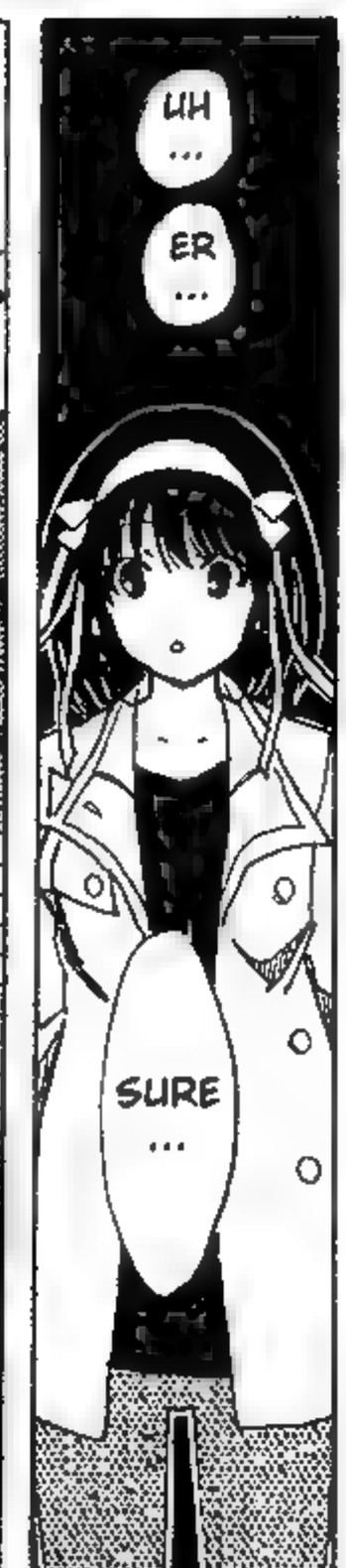
PEKORI (BOW)
ペコッ!

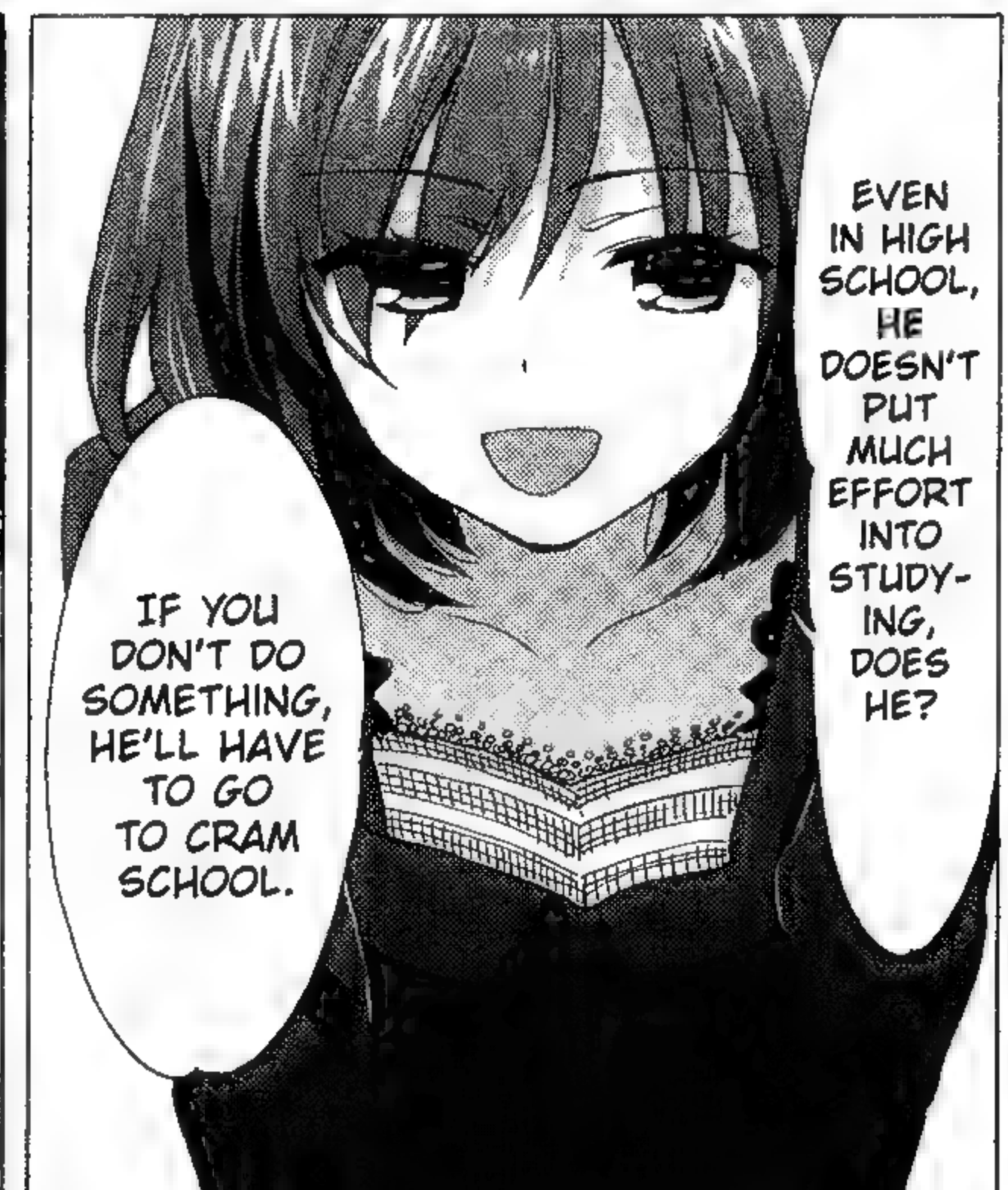
IF YOU LIVE AROUND HERE, THIS IS THE OBVIOUS PLACE TO MEET UP.
I PROMISED TO MEET WITH SOME FRIENDS HERE.

IT'S JUST A COINCI-DENCE.

TAKE CARE OF KYON.
SUZUMIYA-SAN.

IT WAS PRETTY IM-PRES-SIVE...
...TO SEE HARUHI SO DUMB-FOUND-ED.
CHIRA (GLANCE)
チラッ
!?


UH ...
ER ...
SURE ...


EVEN IN HIGH SCHOOL, HE DOESN'T PUT MUCH EFFORT INTO STUDY-ING, DOES HE?
IF YOU DON'T DO SOMETHING, HE'LL HAVE TO GO TO CRAM SCHOOL.

ZO (SHIVER)

WHAT THE ...!?

GIIIN (CLASH)

FEELS LIKE A CONTINENTAL PLATE CRASHING INTO AN OCEAN SHELF...

EMPTINESS...

THAT'S ALL I FELT FROM THAT GIRL.

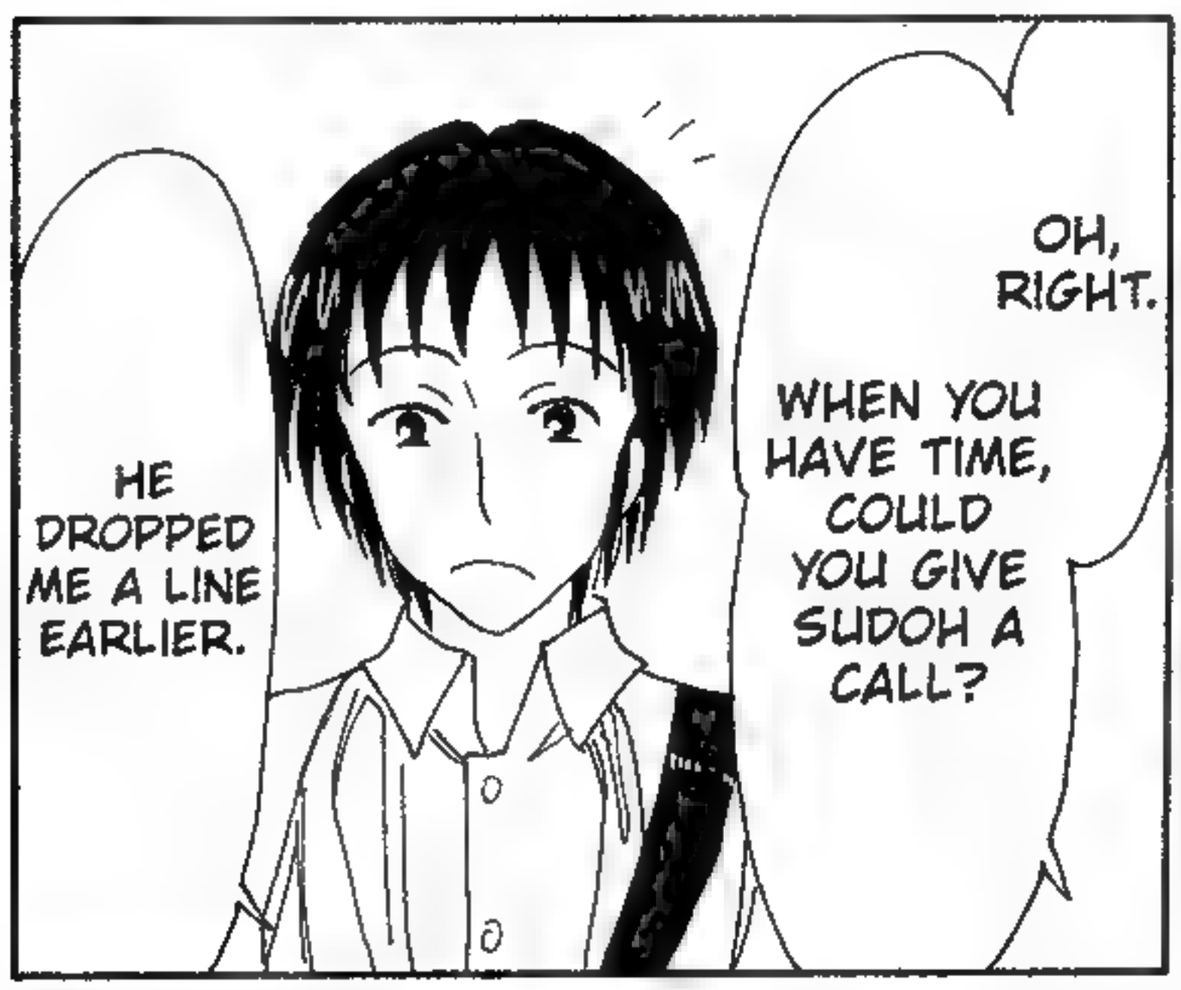
I'D ALWAYS THOUGHT I'D BEEN GOOD AT READING NAGATO'S EXPRESSION...

...BUT IT LOOKED LIKE I STILL HAD A LOT TO LEARN.

OH, THANK YOU.
I'M FINE, ASAHINA-SAN.

HERE, USE THIS.
KYON-KUN, YOU DON'T LOOK WELL...
SA (FWISH)

ER...


HE DROPPED ME A LINE EARLIER.
OH, RIGHT.
WHEN YOU HAVE TIME, COULD YOU GIVE SUDOH A CALL?

KYON.
I'LL BE GOING.

DON'T YOU THINK HE MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN YOU?
WHY WOULD SUDOH CALL YOU ABOUT ME?
?
WAIT A SEC.

HE'S PLANNING THE REUNION.
I GUESS HE WANTS YOU IN CHARGE OF CONTACTING PEOPLE AT NORTH HIGH.

YOU KNOW THAT BETTER THAN ANYONE, RIGHT, KYON?

I'VE NEVER DONE ANYTHING TO MAKE ANYBODY LIKE ME.

I'VE NEVER INVITED AFFECTION.

HARDLY.

HEH HEH.

THAT SO?

NO ...

NOT REAL-LY.

TO (STMP)

WE'LL JUST LEAVE IT AT THAT.

SEE YOU.

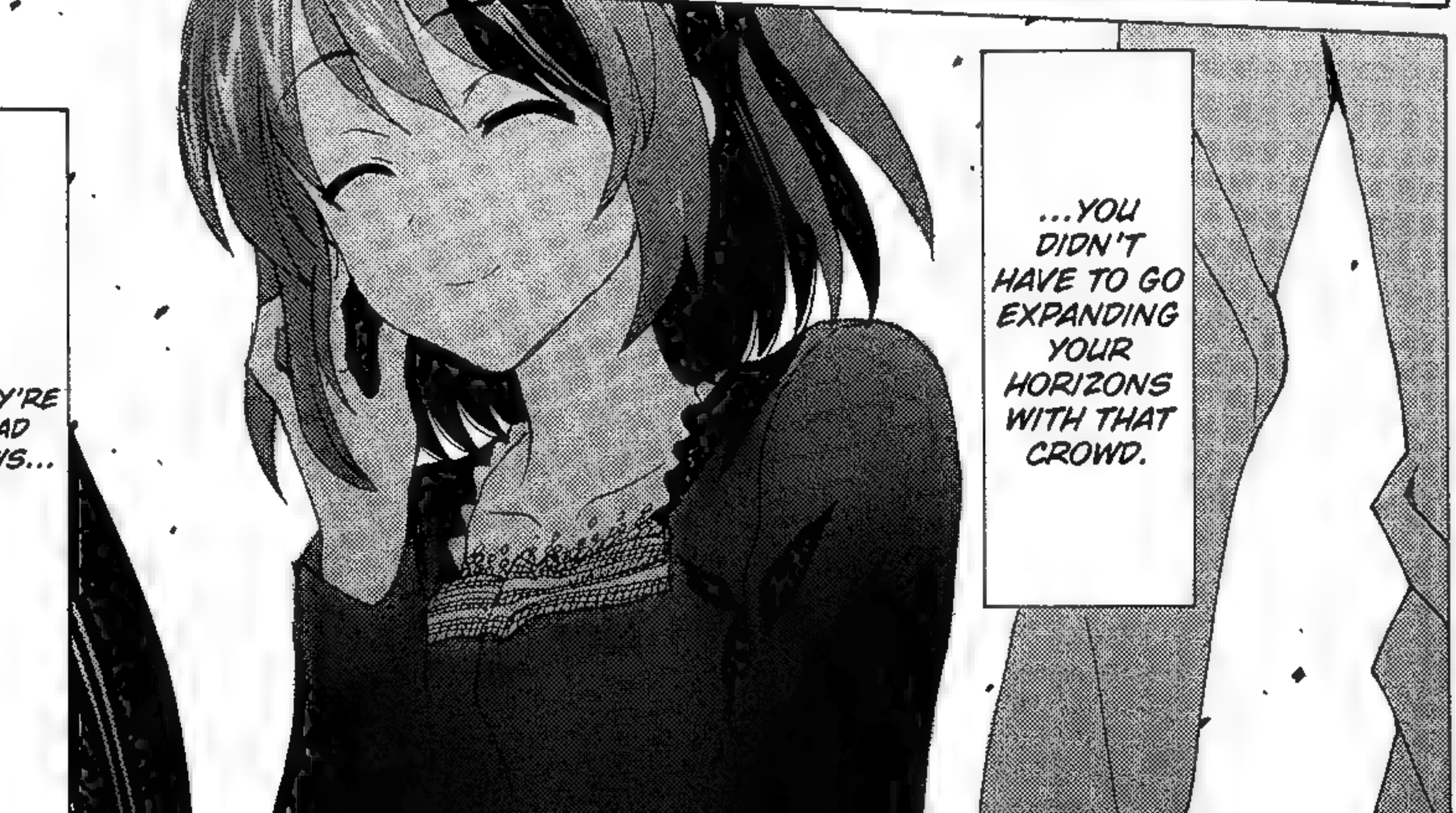
ALTHOUGH SHE DOES SEEM A LITTLE CONTRIVED.
STILL, SHE IS AWFULLY INTERESTING, CONSIDERING SHE'S ONE OF YOUR FRIENDS.

WHAT A PECULIAR PERSON.

BET SHE HAS MORE FRIENDS THAN YOU.
PROB-ABLY.

THAT'S HOW SHE IS.
I BET SHE'D CONSIDER THAT A COMPLIMENT.

STILL, SASAKI...
IT WAS TRUE THAT SHE WAS A MORE SOCIABLE PERSON THAN ME.


THEY'RE BAD NEWS...
...YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO GO EXPANDING YOUR HORIZONS WITH THAT CROWD.

ANYWAY, ABOUT TODAY...

I'VE BEEN THINKING IT'S NOT GOOD TO SPLIT INTO GROUPS OF TWO AND THREE.

TAN (TMP)

AFTER ALL, ISN'T IT EASIER TO NOTICE STUFF WHEN THERE'RE MORE PEOPLE LOOKING?

TA (TMP)

HEAR THAT, KYON?

AND WE CAN PREVENT SLACKING OFF TOO.

JIRORI (GLARE)

HEY, HARUHI.

THESE MYSTE-RIOUS THINGS YOU'RE LOOKING FOR... WHAT ARE THEY?

THIS IS THE MOST BASIC OF BASICS...

...SO REMEM-BER IT WELL!

PI (FLICK)

...THERE WERE ALL KINDS OF WEIRD THINGS, BUT I DIDN'T CARE ANYMORE.

LIKE SASAKI OR THE NEW CLUB MEMBER PROSPECTS...

SPACE-TIME DISTORTIONS, ALIENS PRETENDING TO BE HUMAN, WHATEVER!

BASICALLY ANYTHING BIZARRE IS FINE!

BA (WHAP)

THAT ALONE WAS STRANGELY ENOUGH TO MAKE ME FEEL LIKE EVERYTHING WOULD WORK OUT.

HER CURIOSITY WAS ON FULL BLAST.

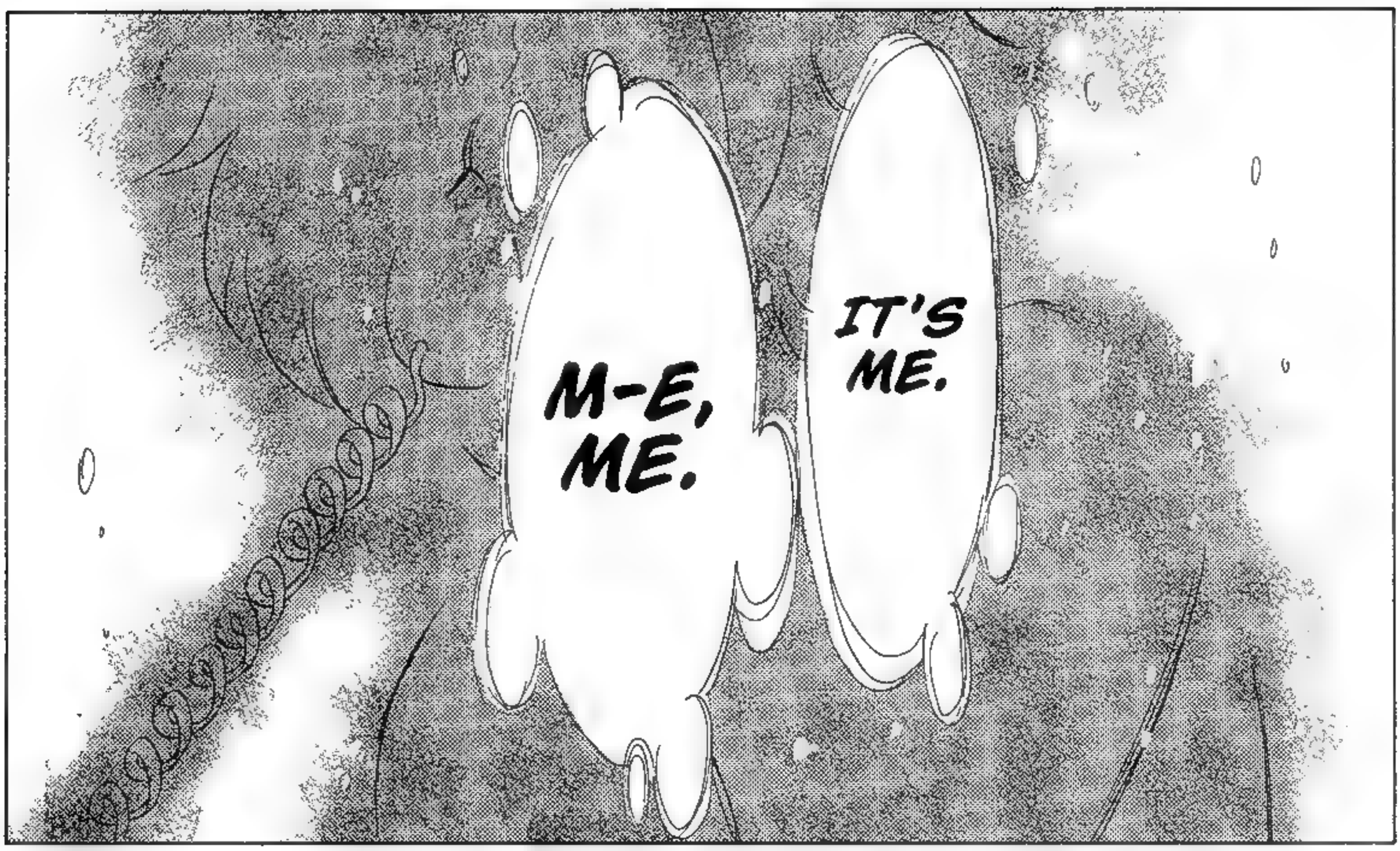
AND THUS THE DAY PASSED...

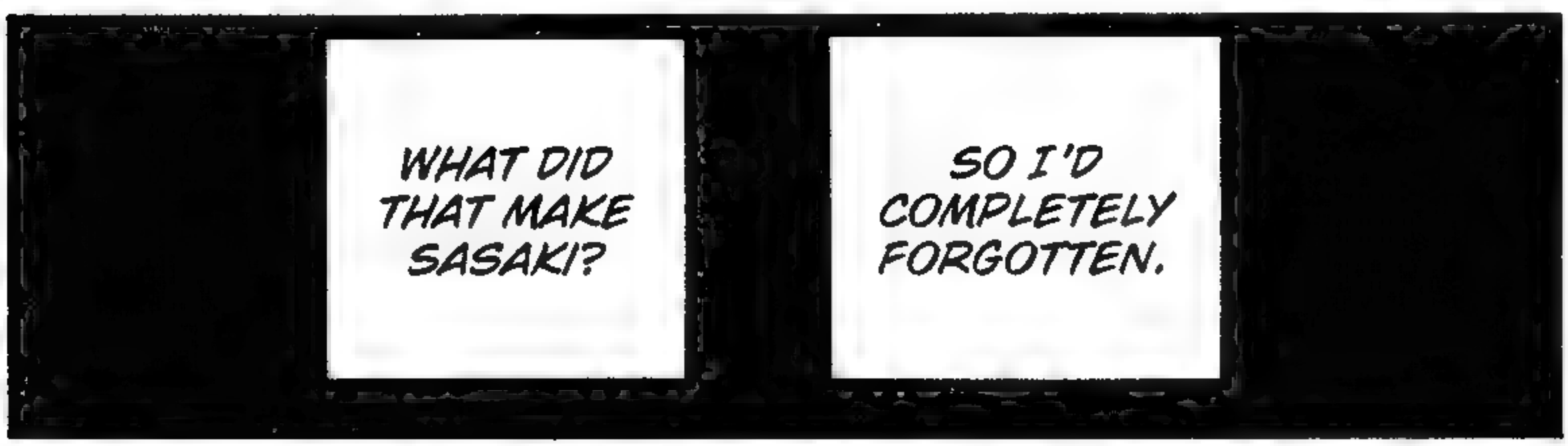
IT WAS SO NORMAL THAT IT MADE ME UNEASY.

THAT DAY, ALL FIVE OF US SET OUT AS A GROUP.

SO...
NAGATO WAS FORCIBLY DRESSED IN COOL (?) CLOTHING.
KOIZUMI GOT BUSY WITH HIS BROWN-NOSING.
ASA-HINA'S EYES SHIM-MERED AS SHE WINDOW-SHOPPED.
YOU GOT A PROB-LEM WITH THAT?
...WAS IT FUN? SURE, OF COURSE.

THAT EVE-NING.





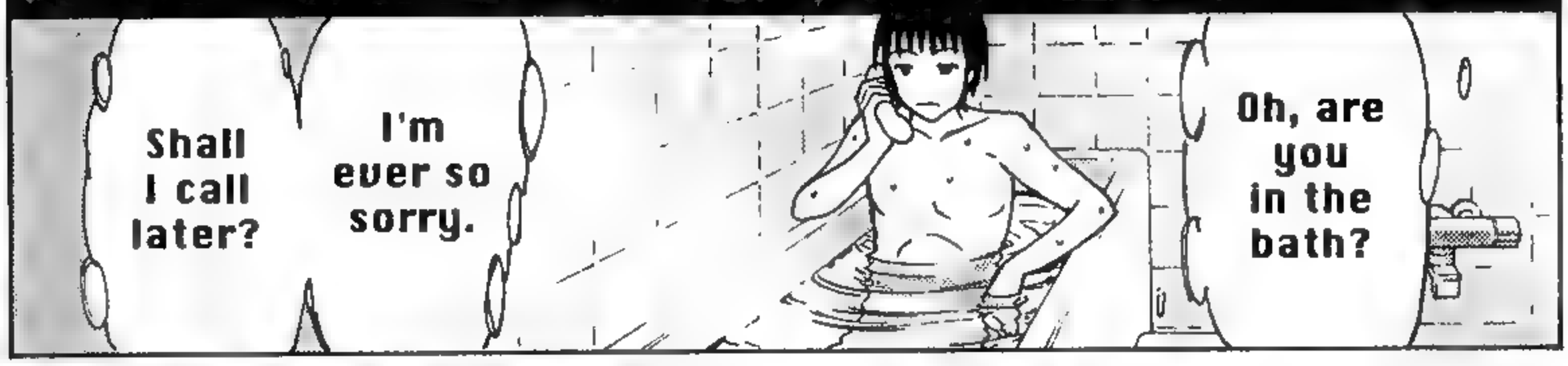
α—1

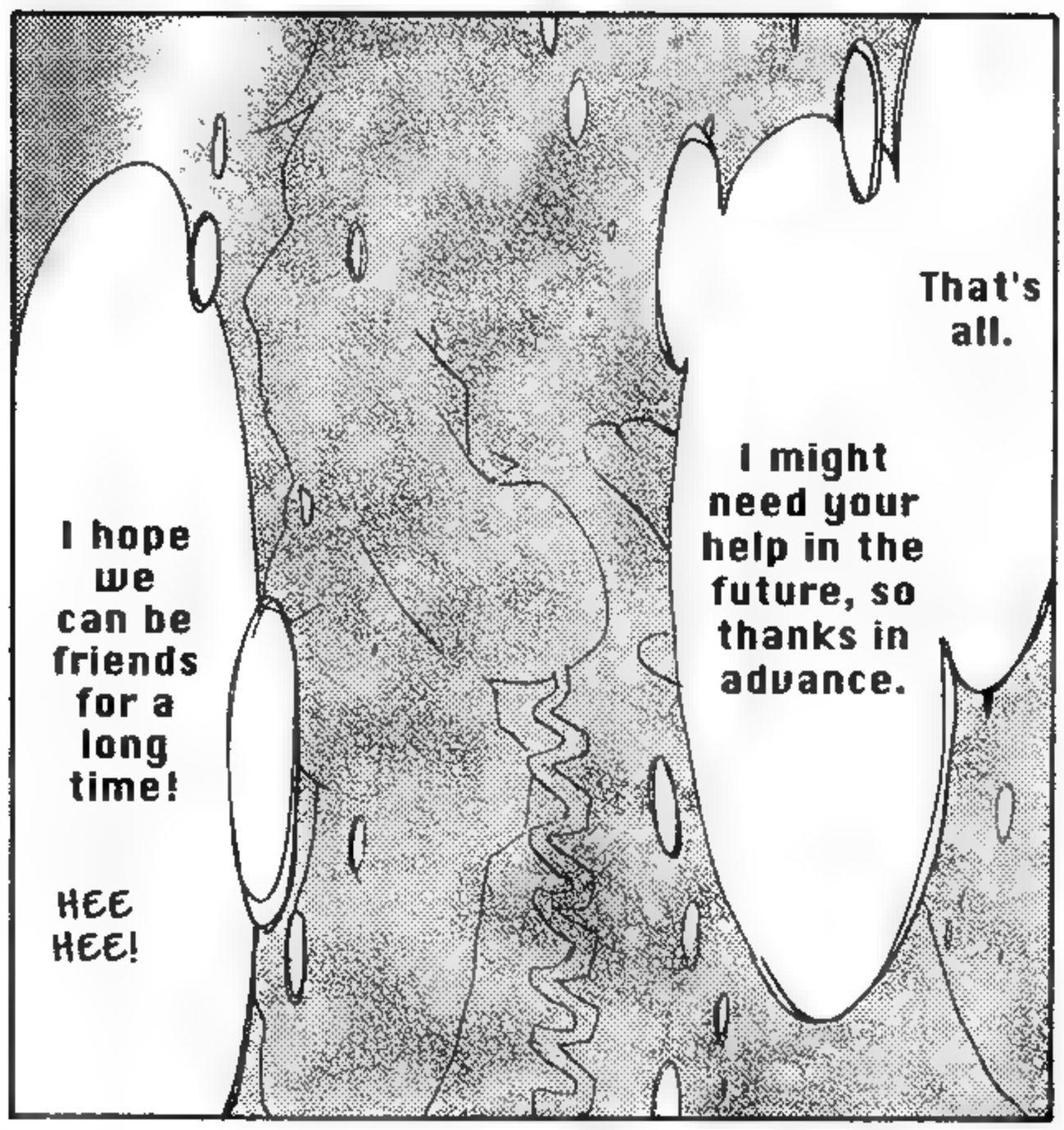
THE DISSOCIATION OF HARUHI SUZUMIYA III : END

The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya

IT'S ME. M-E, ME.

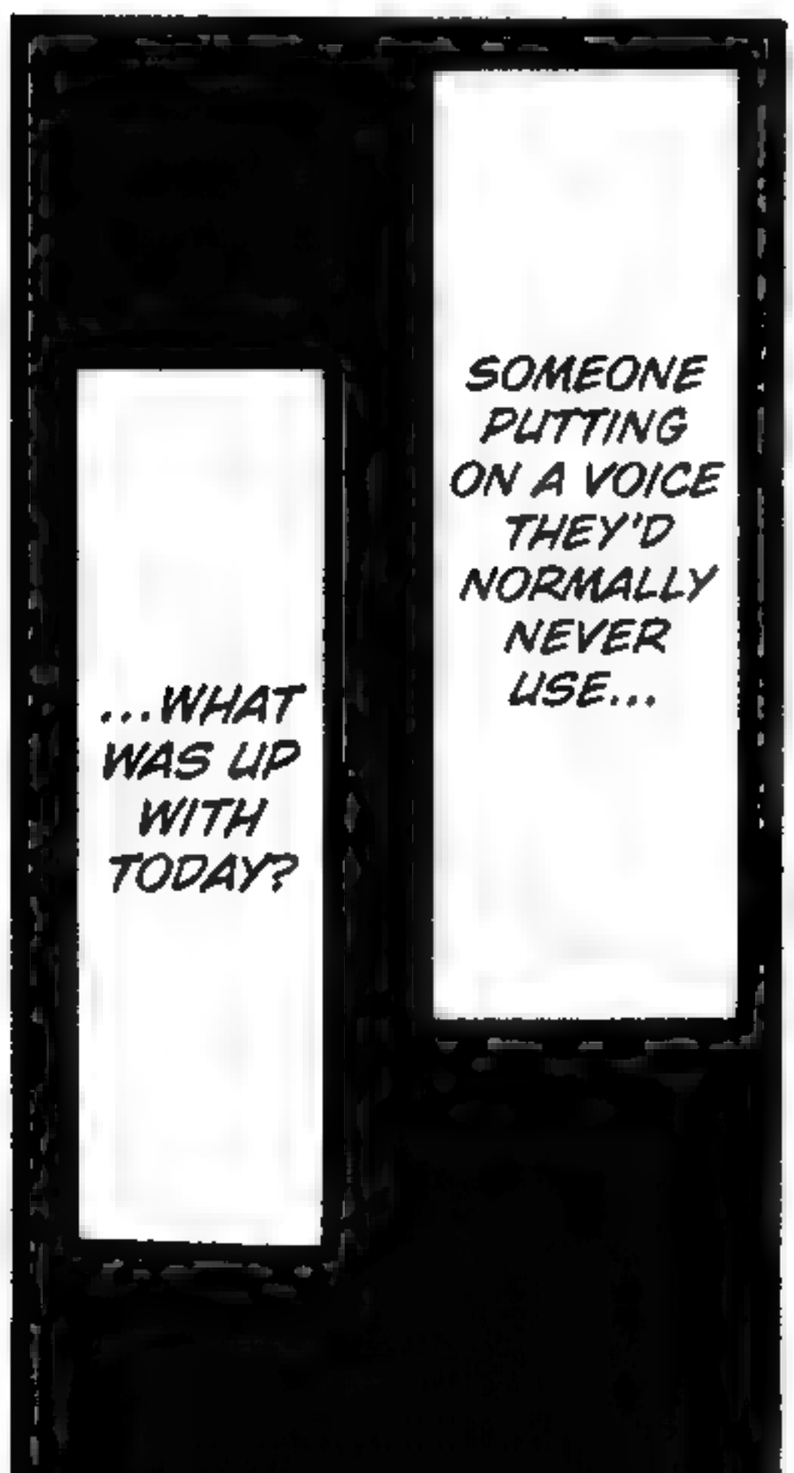
α—1




I hope we can be friends for a long time!
HEE HEE!
That's all.
I might need your help in the future, so thanks in advance.

I just wanted to hear my upper-classman's voice.

HUH!?
BUTSU (CLICK)
Bye, now!
I'm hang-ing up.


...WHAT WAS UP WITH TODAY?
SOMEONE PUTTING ON A VOICE THEY'D NORMALLY NEVER USE...

AND THEN I THOUGHT.
I'D NEVER HEARD THE VOICE, BUT IT REMINDED ME OF SOMEONE ...

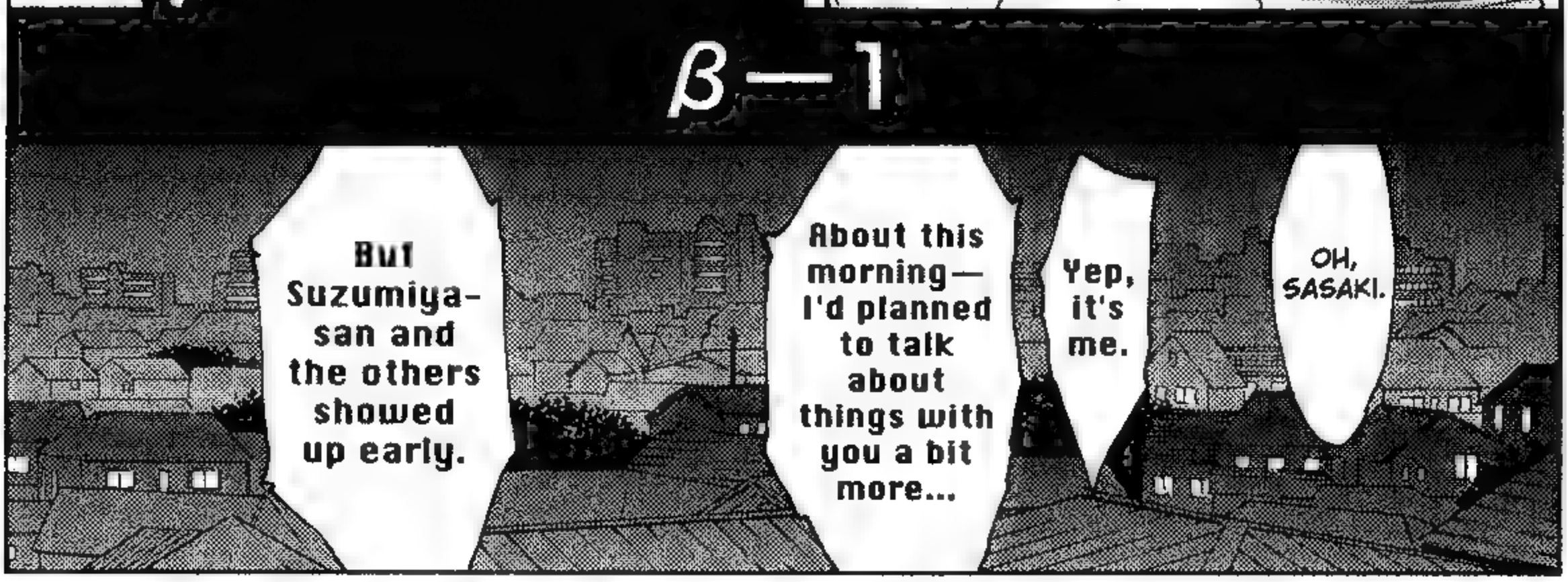
WELL, THAT WAS RUDE.
"UPPER-CLASS-MAN"?

◎ THE DISSOCIATION OF HARUHI SUZUMIYA IV

AH, BATHING, ARE YOU?
ALTHOUGH THE FACT THAT YOU PICKED UP THE PHONE SUGGESTS THAT I CAN CONTINUE ANYWAY.

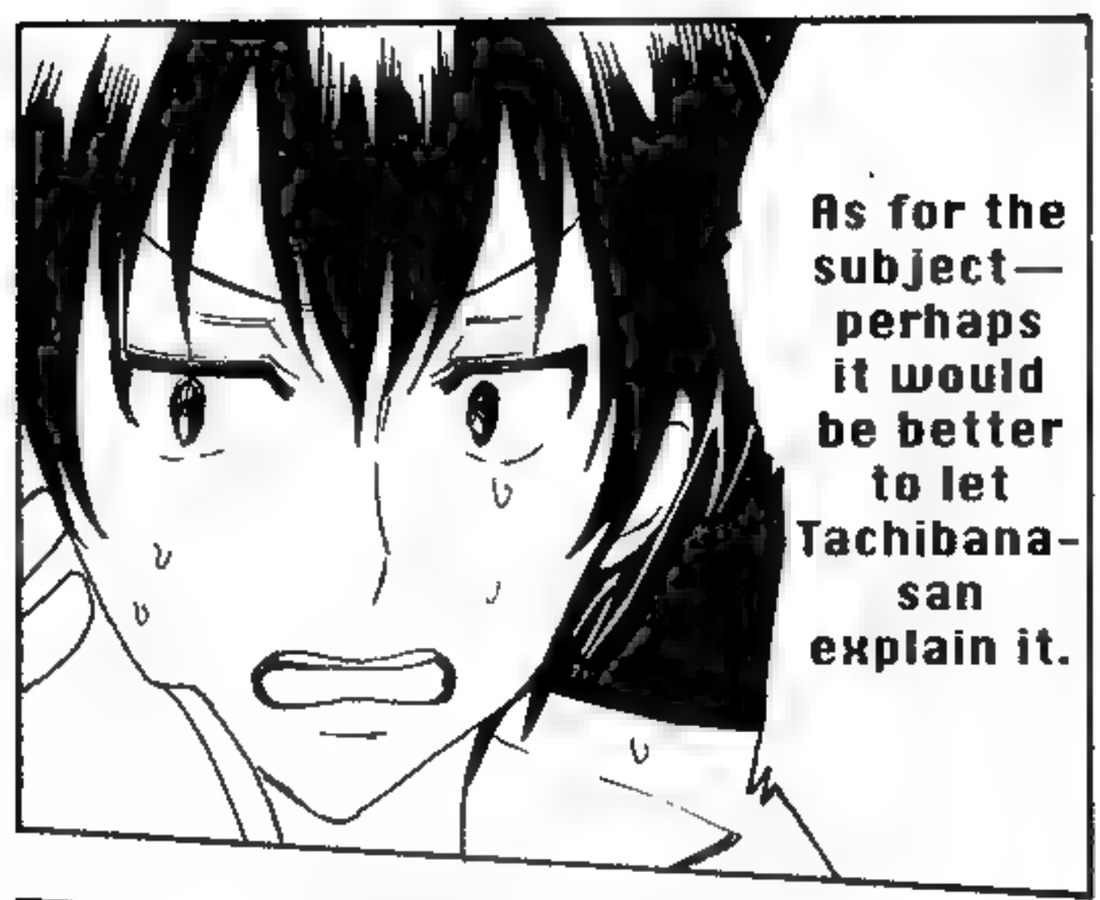
HELLO?

β—1


But Suzumiya-san and the others showed up early.
About this morning— I'd planned to talk about things with you a bit more...
Yep, it's me.
OH, SASAKI.

SO, WHAT DO YOU WANT?
IF YOU WANT TO BE HER TUTOR, BE MY GUEST.
KYU (SQUEAK)

STILL, YOUR LITTLE SISTER'S THE SAME AS EVER.


As for the subject— perhaps it would be better to let Tachibana-san explain it.

...IS THAT YOU'LL UNDERSTAND IT BETTER THAN I DO.
MY GUESS...

I'D LIKE YOU TO COME TO THE USUAL SPOT AT THE STATION TOMOR-ROW.
YOU DO COME RIGHT TO THE POINT.

IF IT LOOKS LIKE I'M ABOUT TO SLUG HIM, YOU BETTER STOP ME.
THIS JUST GETS BETTER AND BETTER.

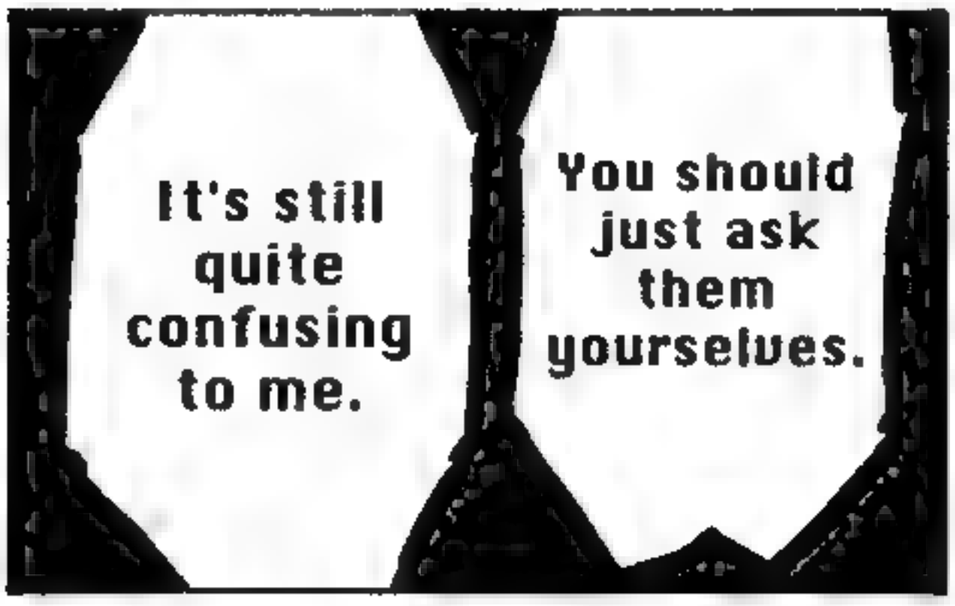
WHAT'D YOU CALL HIM? THE SELF-PROCLAIMED TIME-TRAVELING BAST—
HE'LL BE THERE TOO.

That's what every-body's hoping for.
All three of them just want to have a peaceful conver-sation with you.

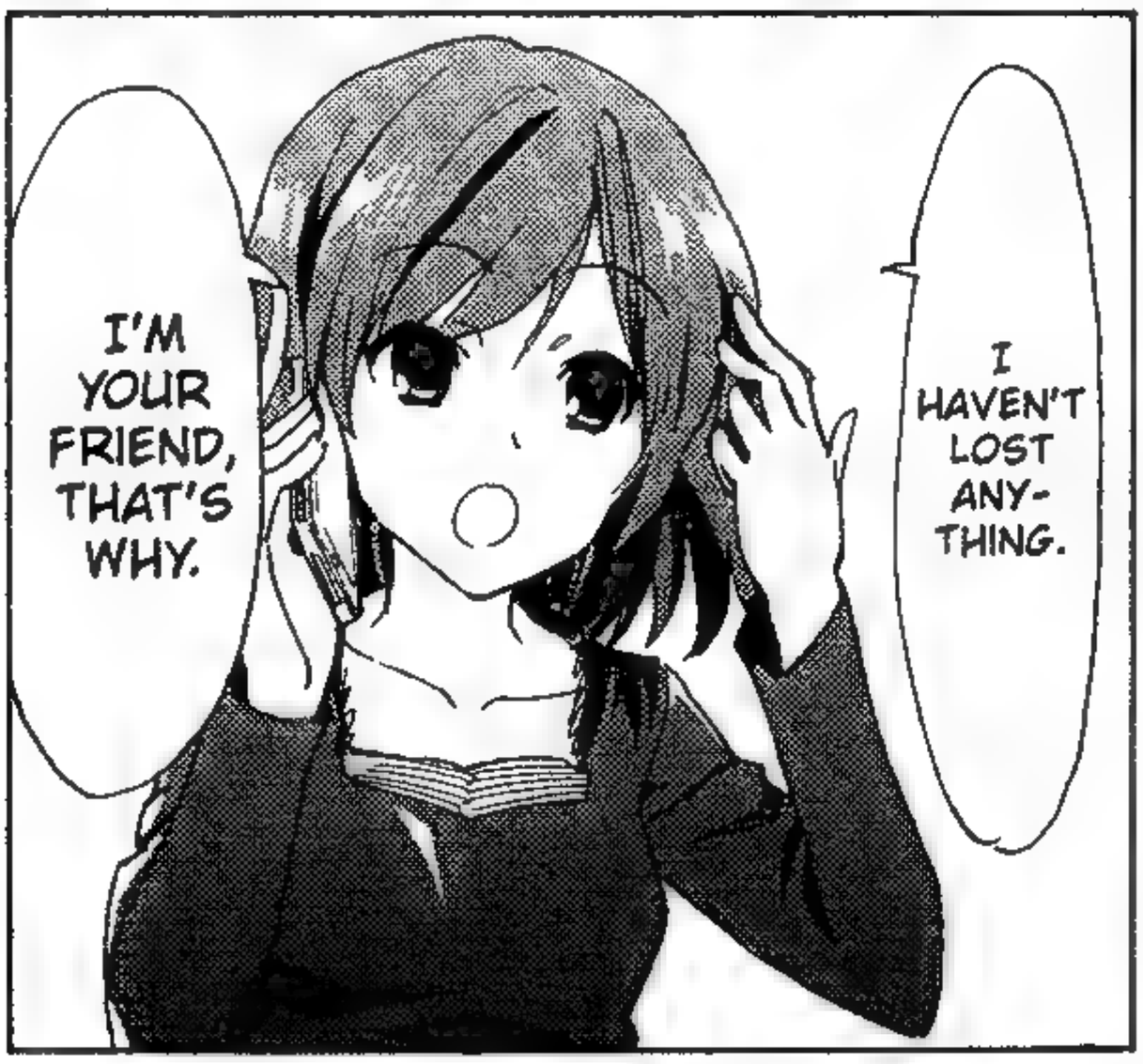
YOU NEED NOT WORRY, THEN.
SO YOU'LL COME?

FOUR YEARS AGO.
THE FIRST MANIFES-TATION OF HARUHI'S SUPER-HUMAN POWER.

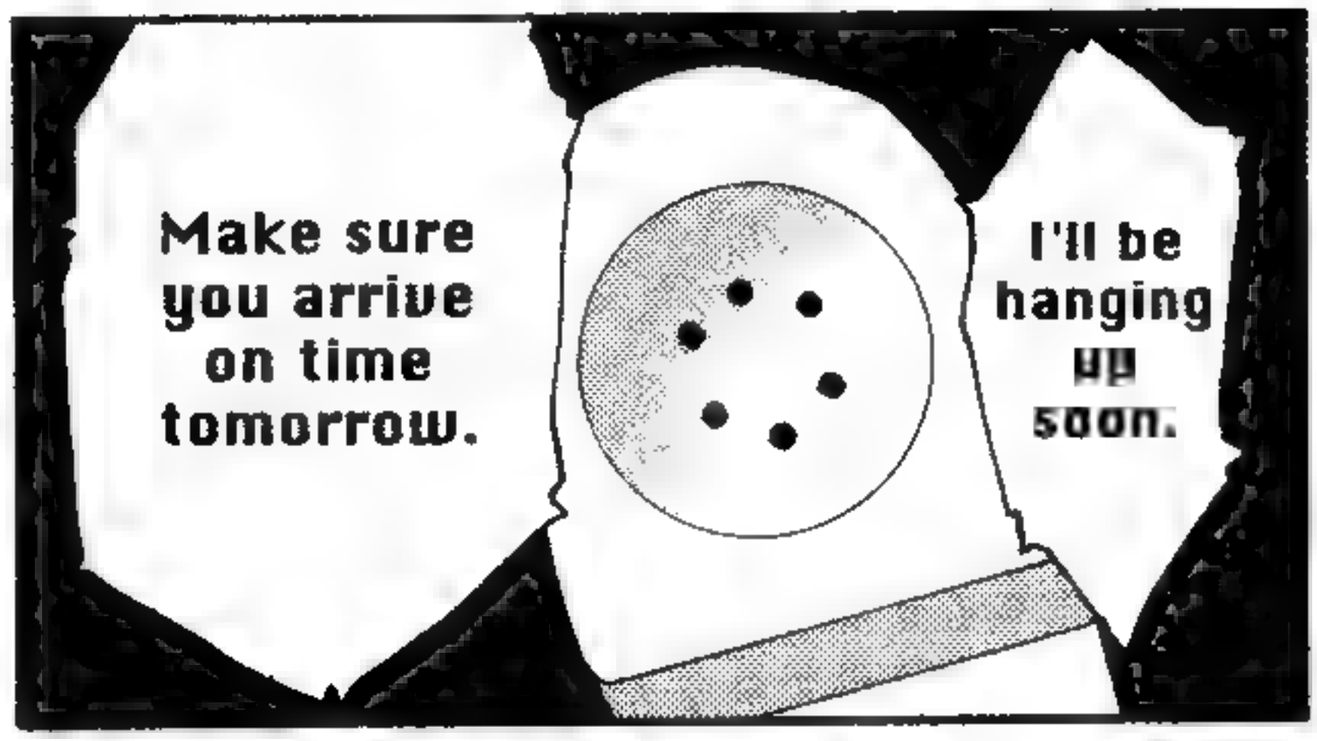
SHE TOLD ME ALL ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED FOUR YEARS AGO.
IT WAS QUITE INTRIGU-ING.


It's still quite confusing to me.
You should just ask them yourselves.

WHAT'D THEY SAY ABOUT IT?


I'M YOUR FRIEND, THAT'S WHY.
I HAVEN'T LOST ANY-THING.

SA-SAKI.
HAVE YOU LOST IT?
WHY ARE YOU ACTING AS THEIR MOUTH-PIECE?



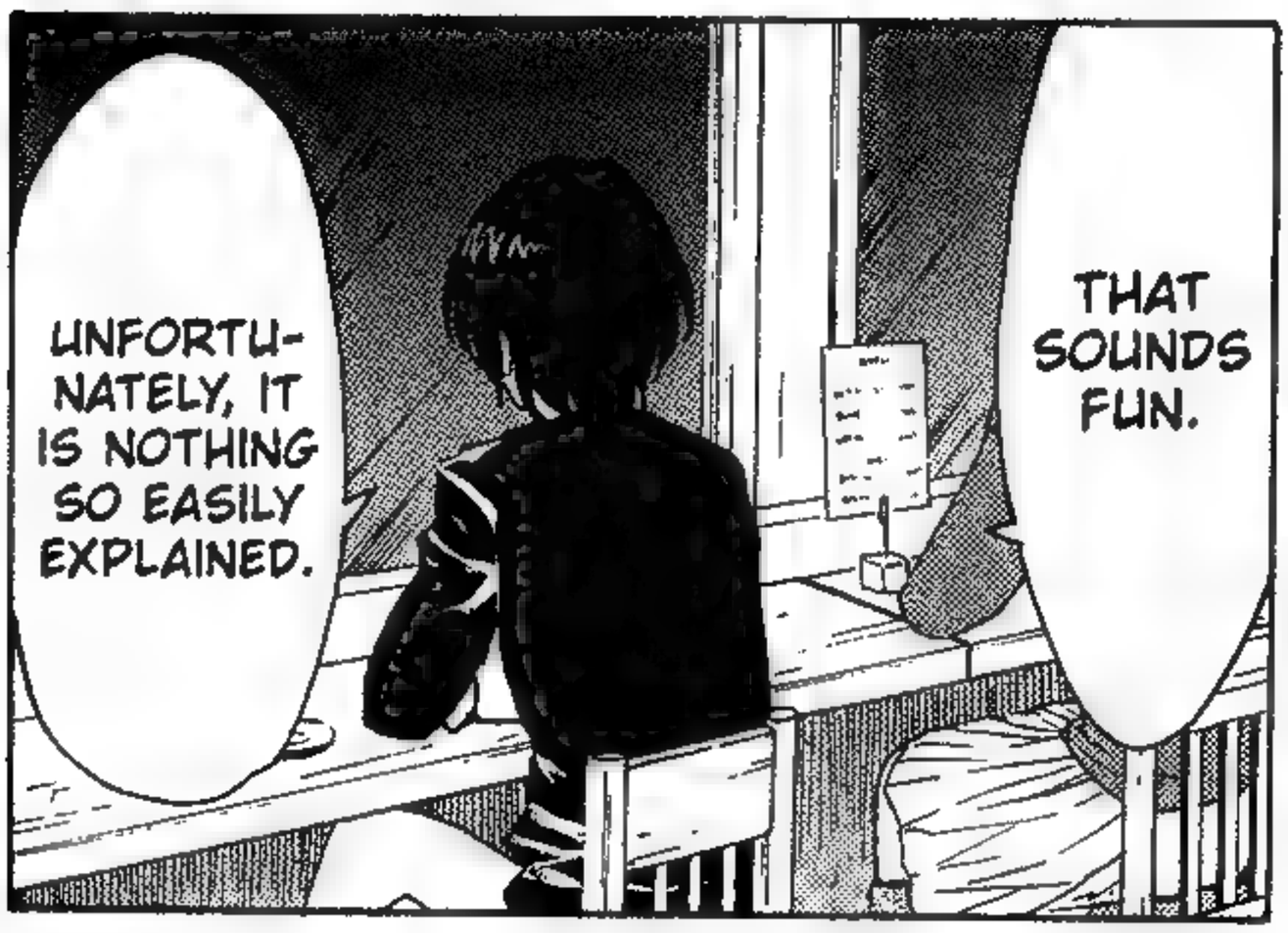
IT WAS ALL THE MORE CONVENIENT FOR ME THAT THE THREE OF THEM WOULD BE TOGETHER.

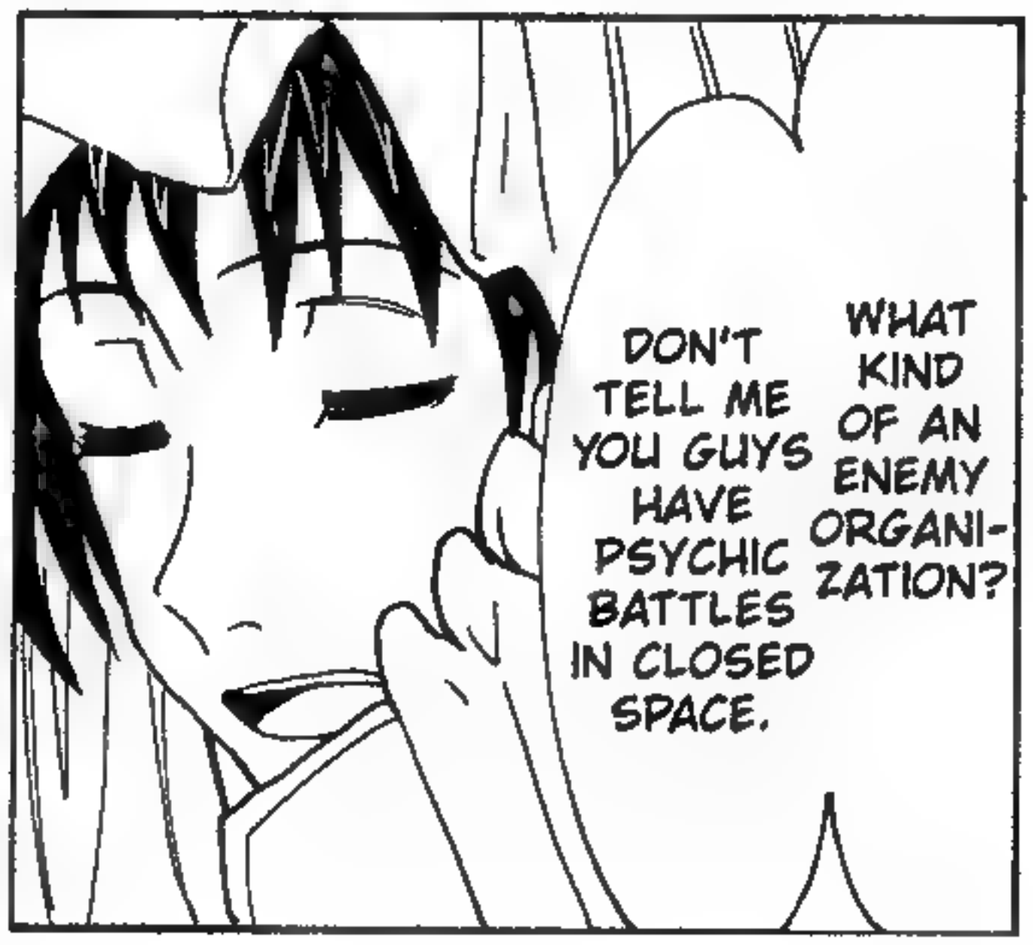
I'D BEEN WANTING TO HAVE A CONVERSATION WITH THEM.

I WAS EXPECTING YOU TO CALL, ACTUALLY.
YES.
CHA (CLICK)
THIS IS KOIZUMI.

SHE'S PART OF THE MANAGEMENT OF AN ENEMY ORGANIZATION.
OF COURSE.

DO YOU KNOW ANYONE NAMED KYOKO TACHIBANA?

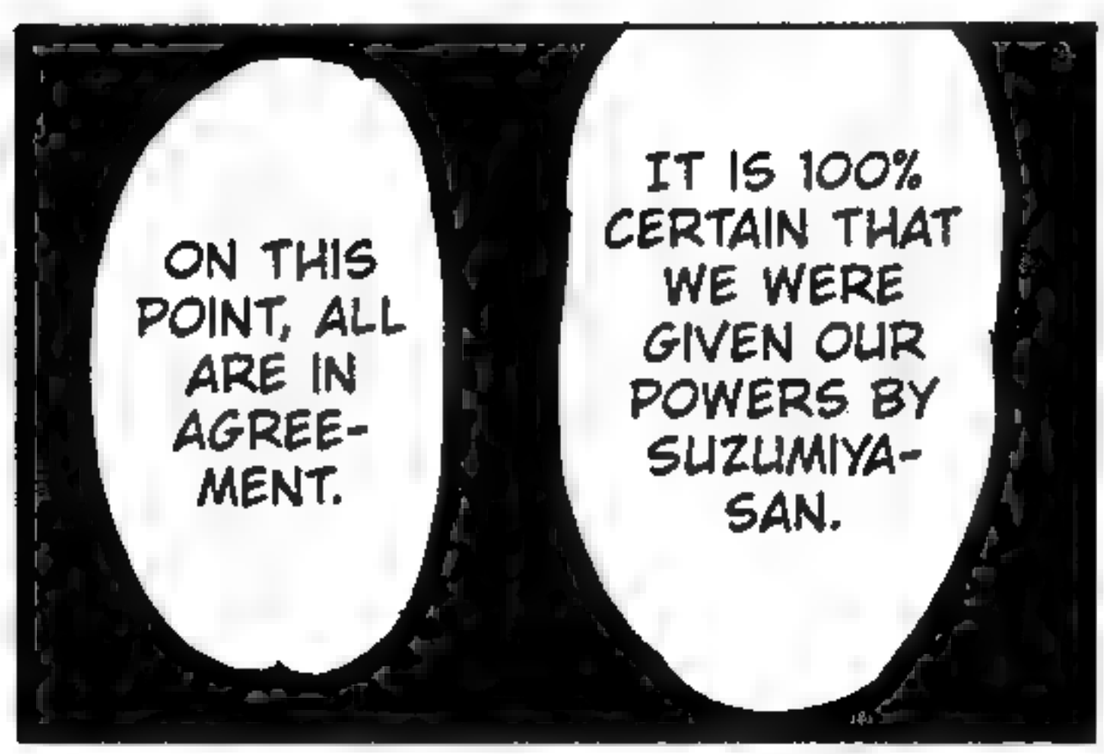

UNFORTUNATELY, IT IS NOTHING SO EASILY EXPLAINED.
THAT SOUNDS FUN.


DON'T TELL ME YOU GUYS HAVE PSYCHIC BATTLES IN CLOSED SPACE.
WHAT KIND OF AN ENEMY ORGANIZATION?

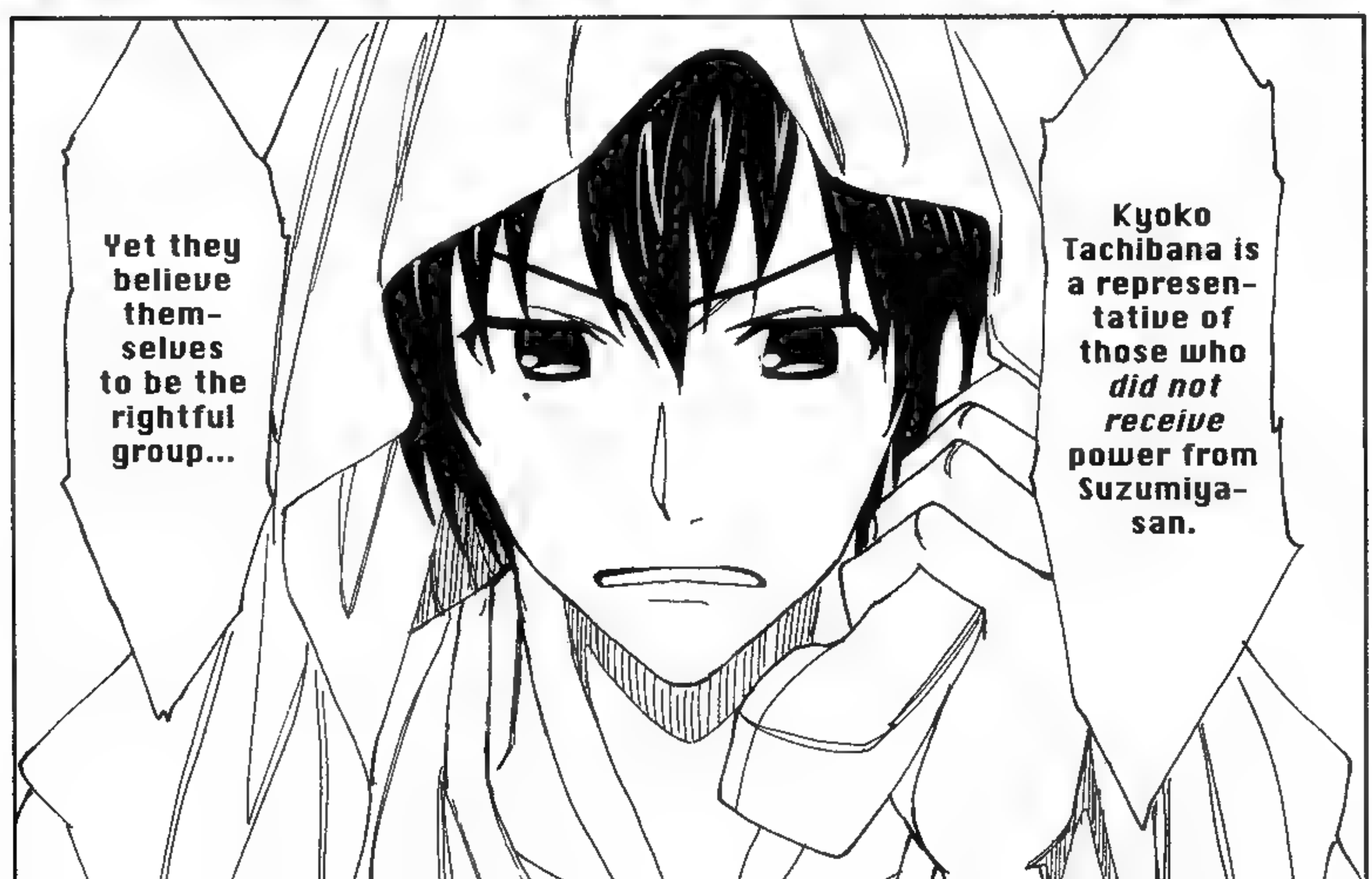
...OUR INTERPRETATIONS ARE DIFFERENT.
YOU COULD SAY THAT WHILE WE ARE FOUNDED ON SIMILAR CONCEPTS ...

THAT WHOLE HARUHI-IS-GOD IDEA?

SHE AND HER KIND CANNOT ENTER THE CLOSED SPACE THAT SUZUMIYA-SAN CREATES.
HOW-EVER ...
...KYOKO TACHIBANA'S FACTION AND MY AGENCY ARE NOT SO VERY DIFFERENT.


ON THIS POINT, ALL ARE IN AGREE-MENT.
IT IS 100% CERTAIN THAT WE WERE GIVEN OUR POWERS BY SUZUMIYA-SAN.

IT HAS MANY BELIEVERS WITHIN THE AGENCY.
ESSEN-TIALLY, YES.

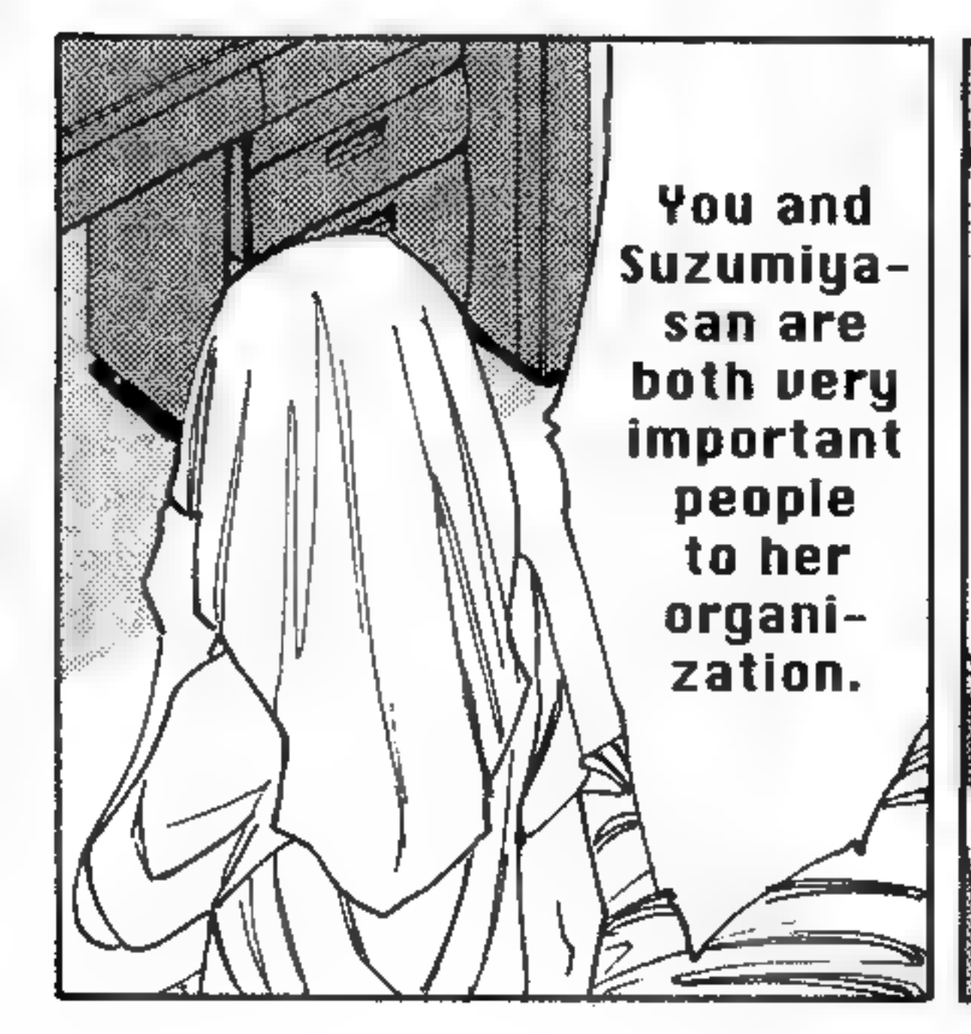

Yet they believe them-selves to be the rightful group...
Kyoko Tachibana is a represen-tative of those who *did not receive* power from Suzumiya-san.

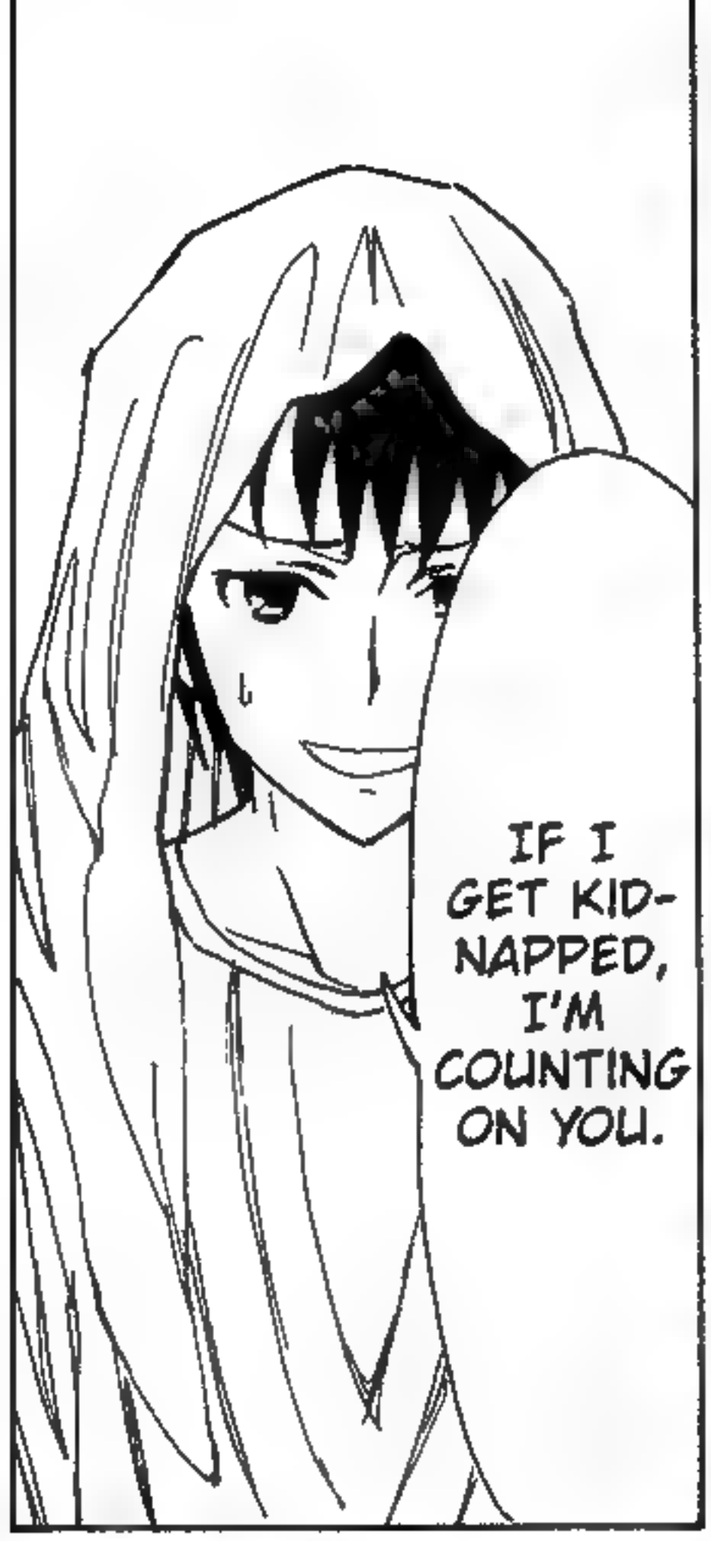
WHEN THEY SHOULD BE STANDING ASIDE AND WATCHING.

I SYMPATHIZE WITH THEM, BUT...

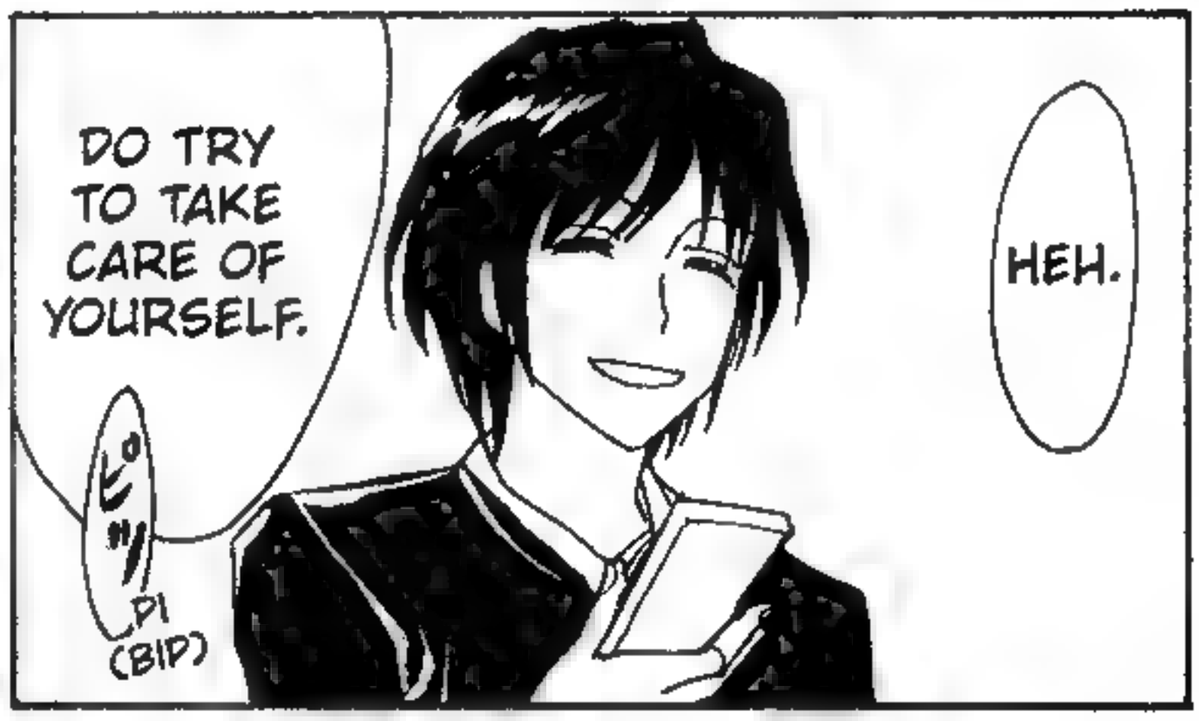
AND DESPITE THEIR POOR UNDERSTANDING, THEY'RE GETTING INVOLVED ANYWAY.

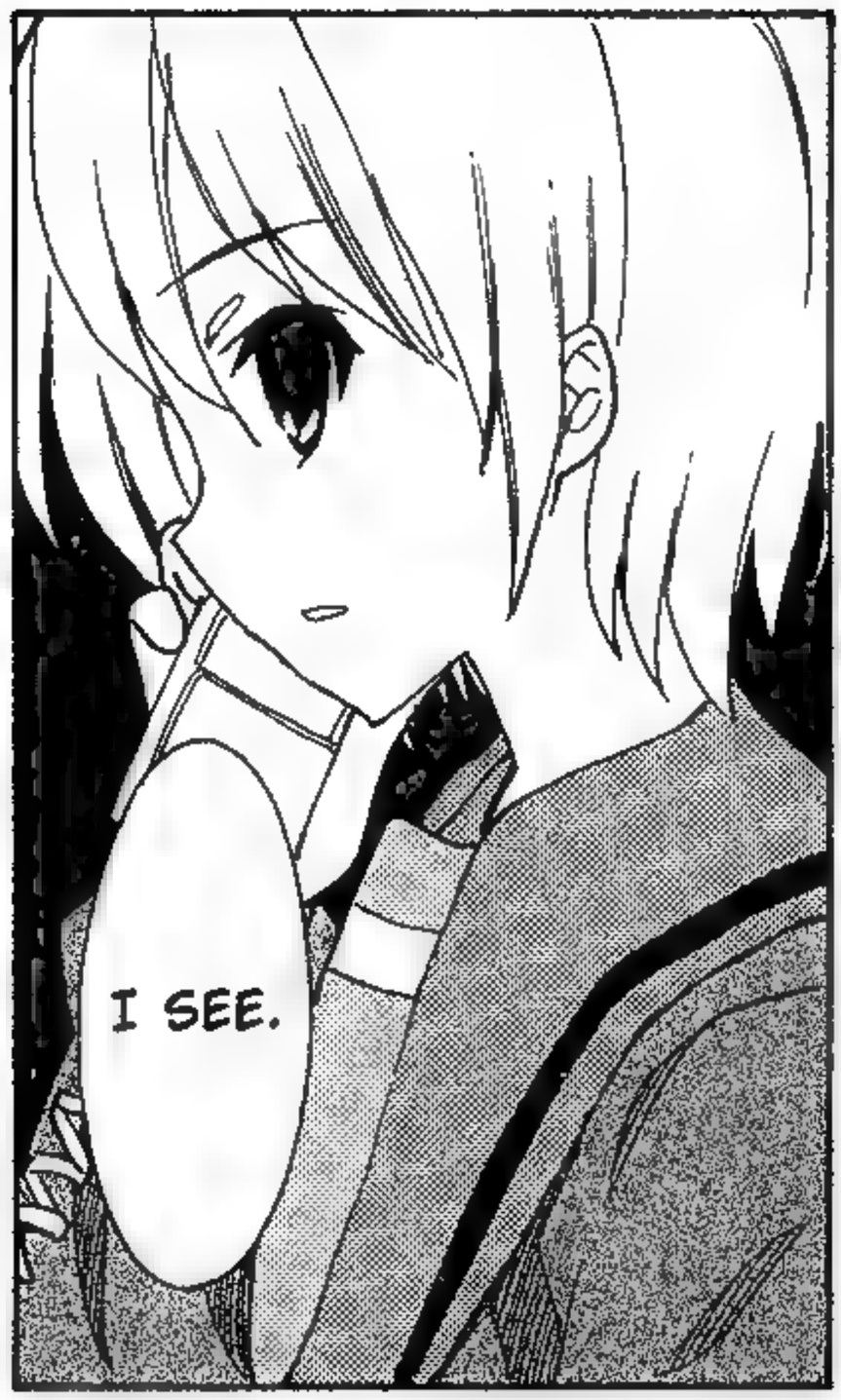
UNLIKE US, THEY DO NOT THINK OF SUZUMIYA AS THE ULTIMATE AUTHORITY.

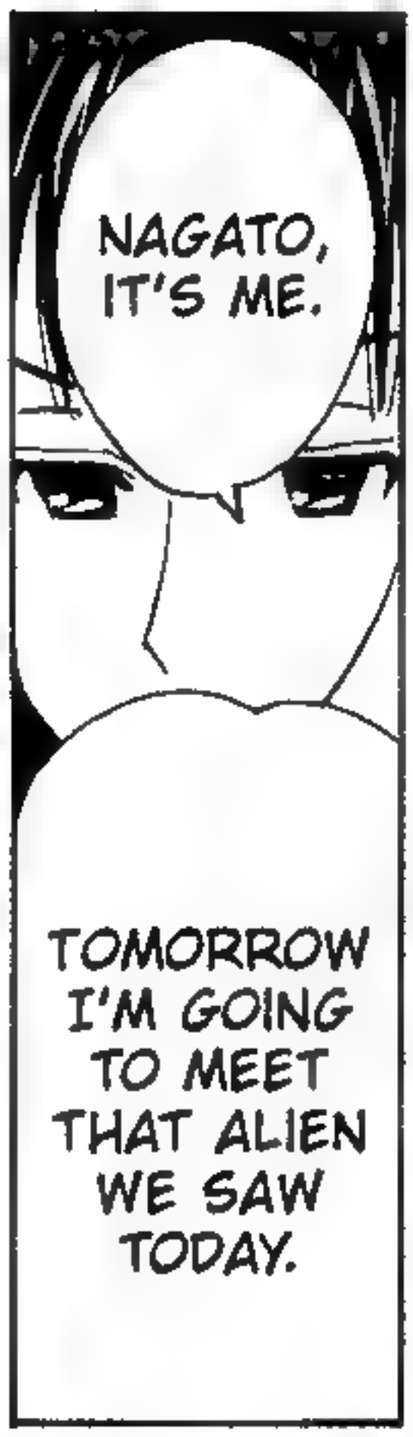


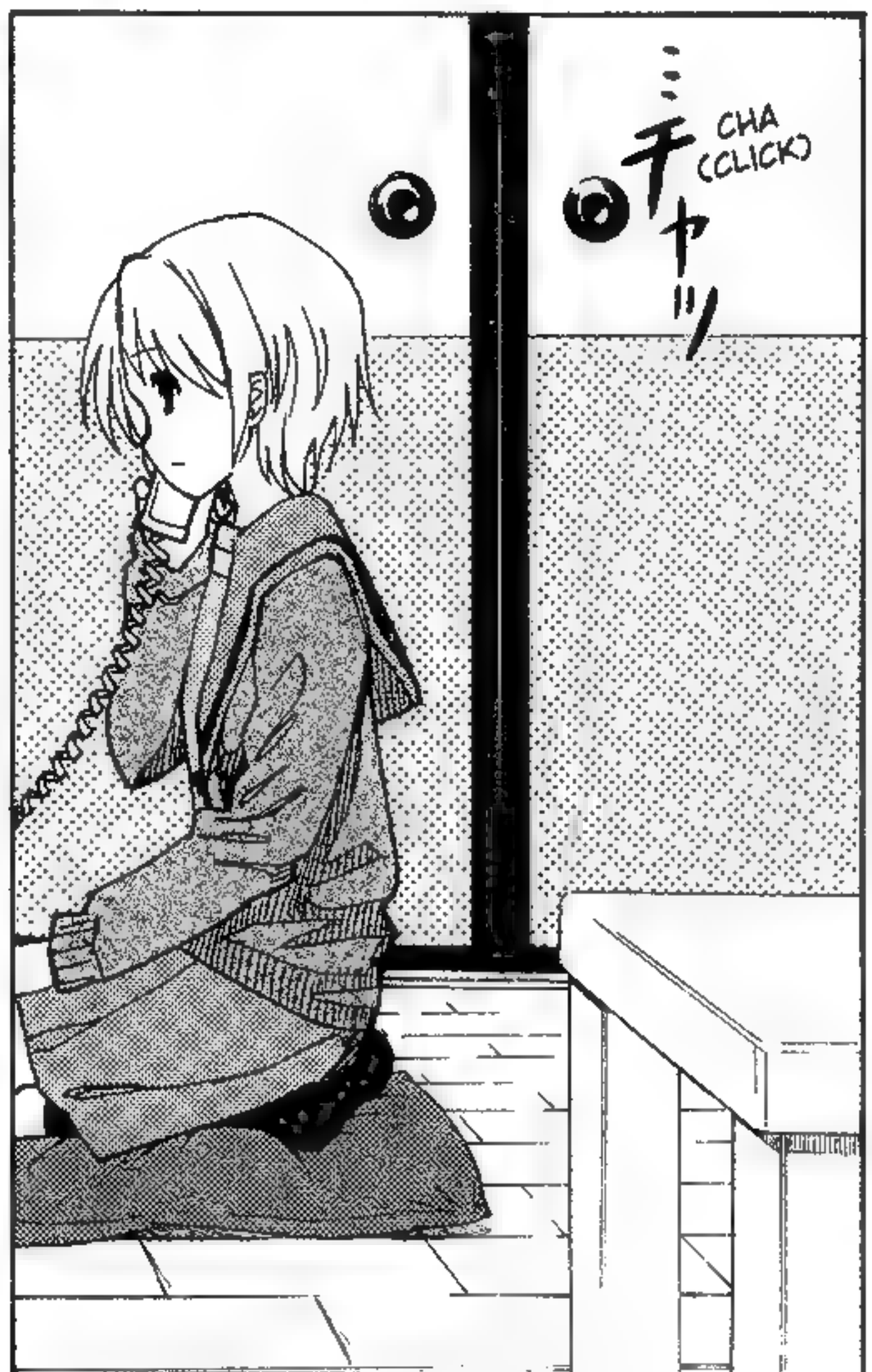


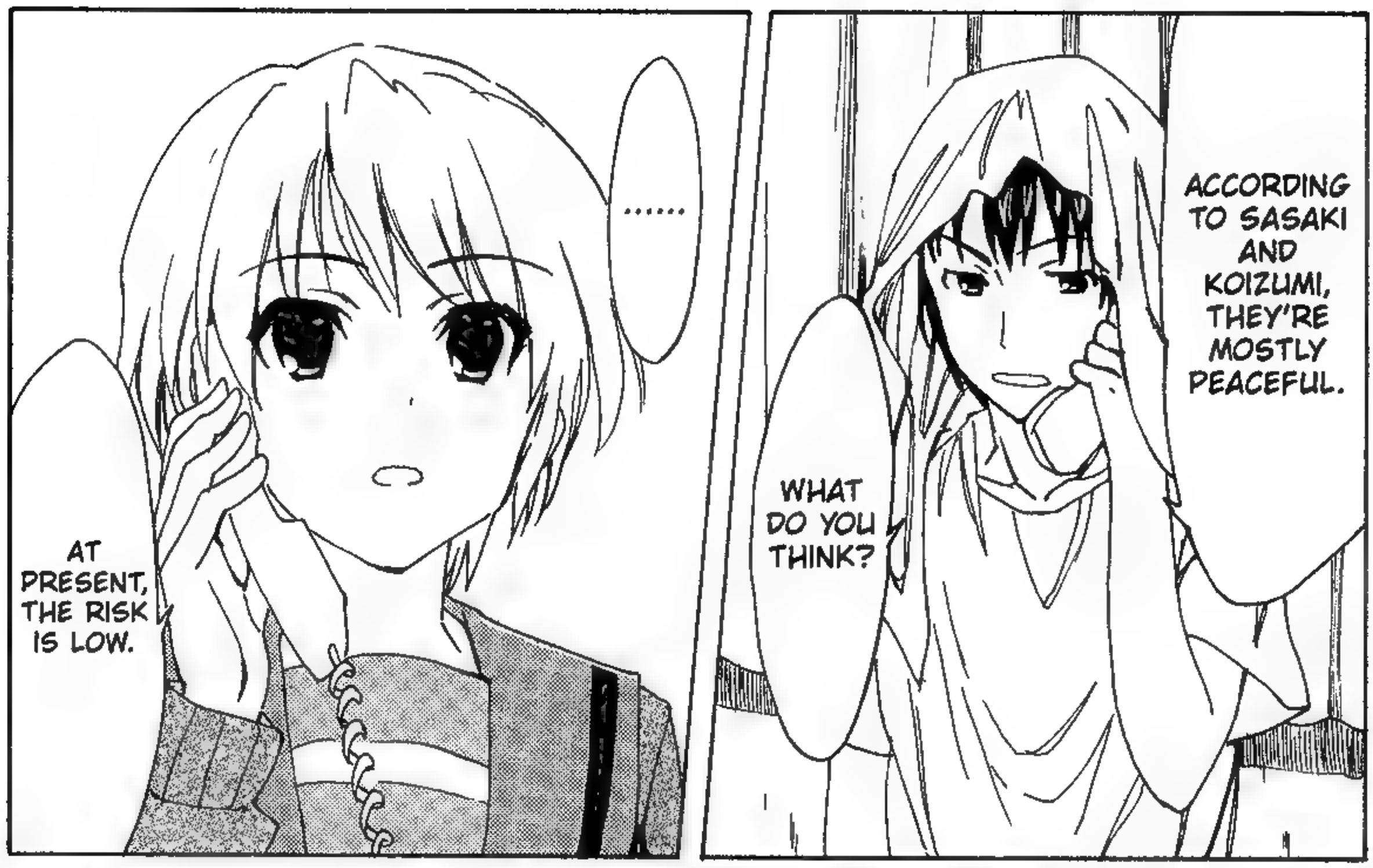
CELL: CALL COMPLETED



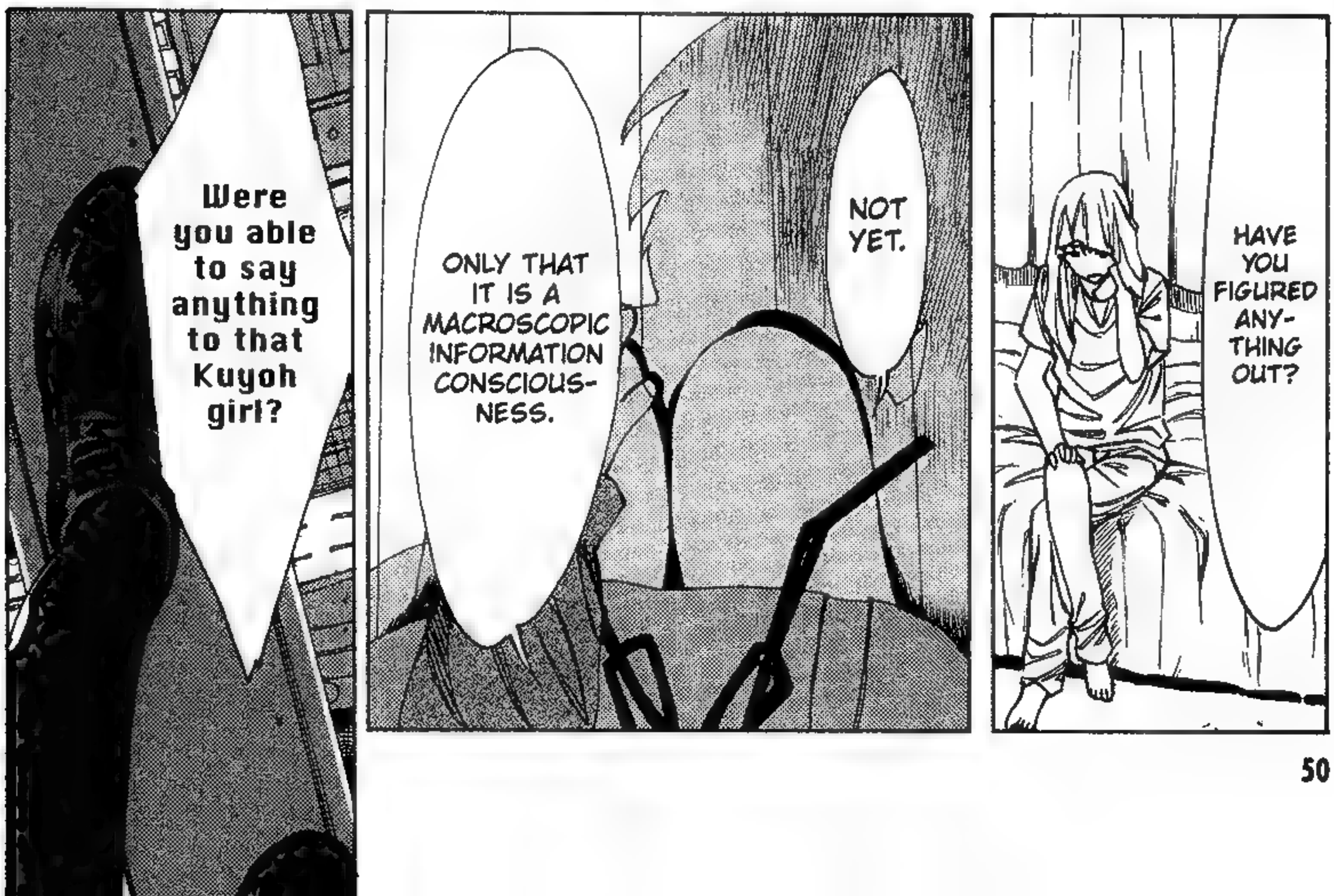






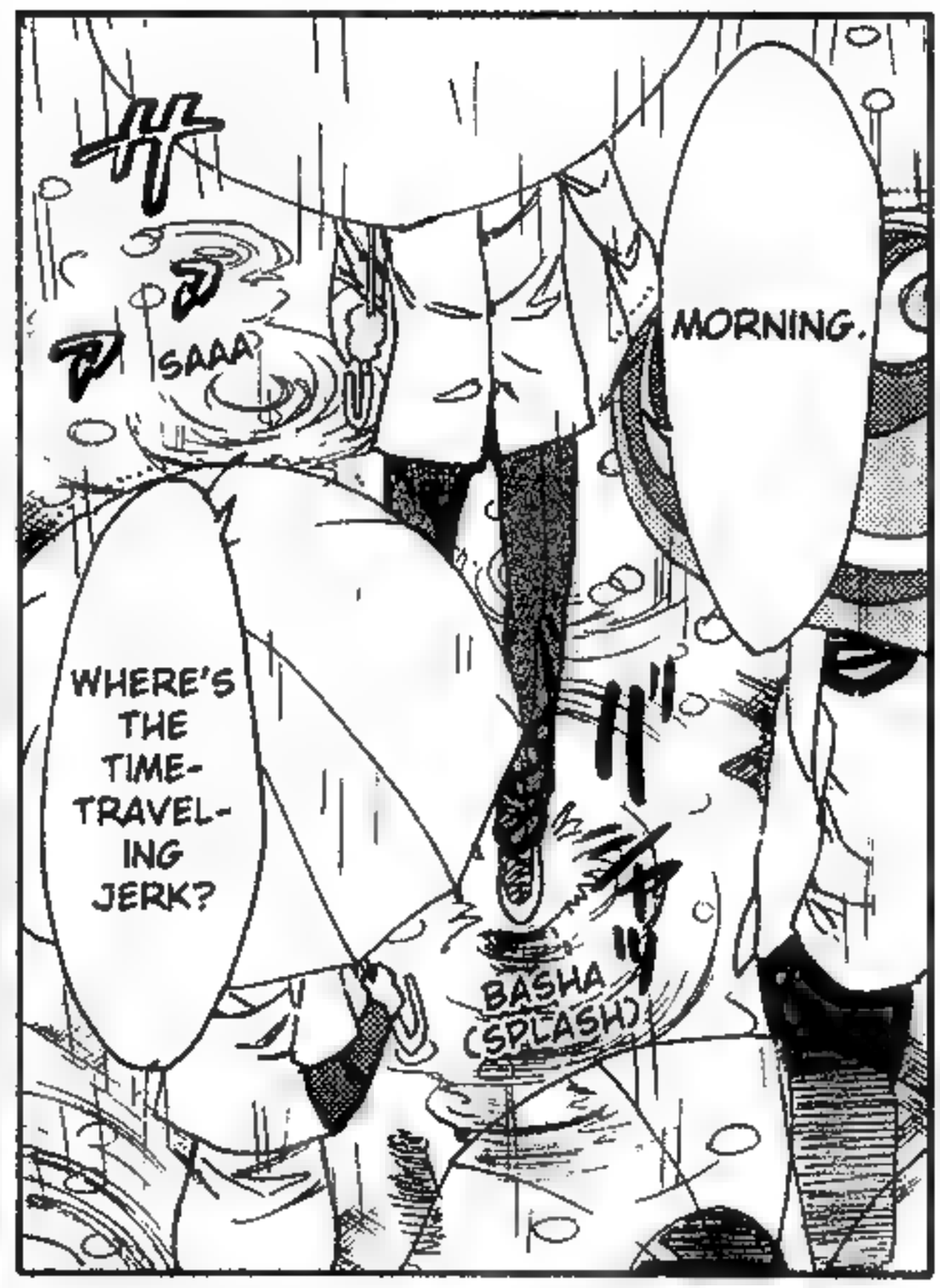

.....
AT PRESENT, THE RISK IS LOW.
ACCORDING TO SASAKI AND KOIZUMI, THEY'RE MOSTLY PEACEFUL.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

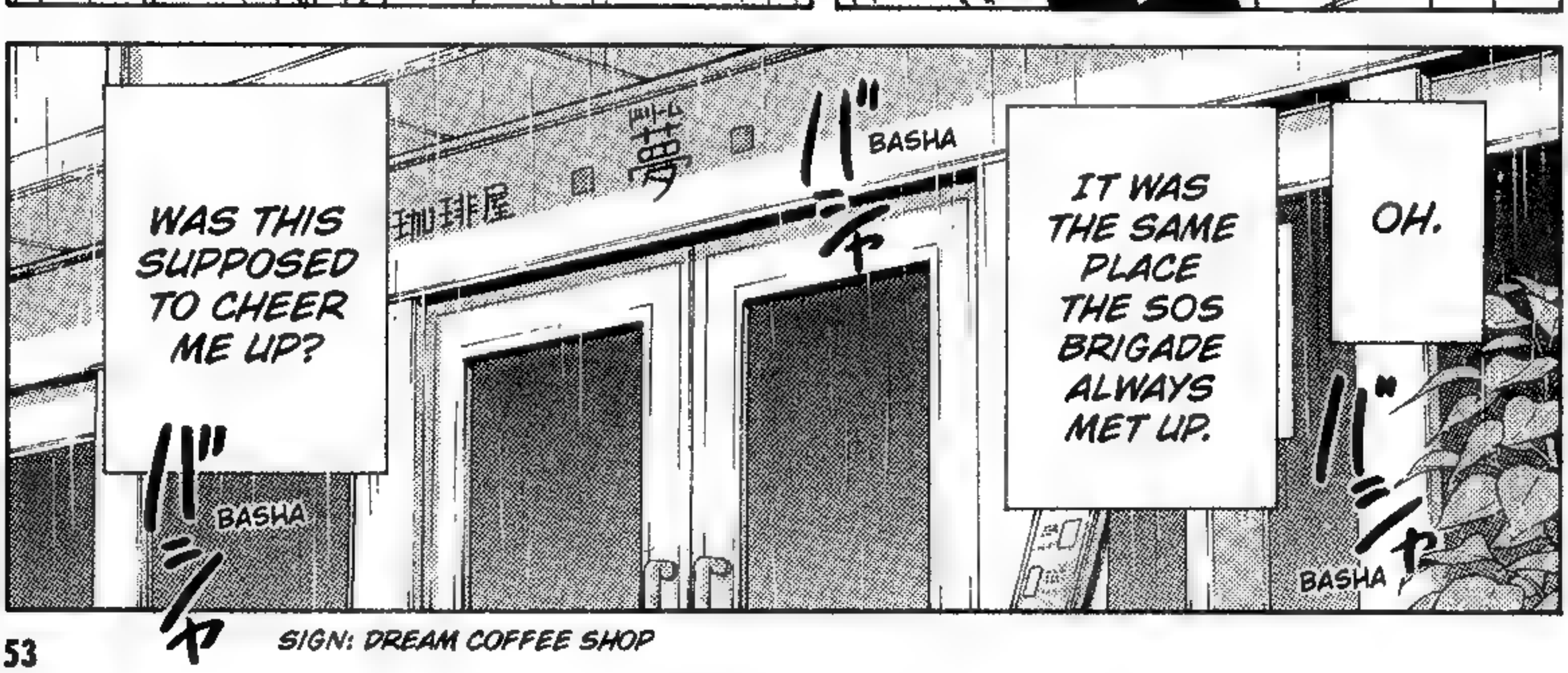
The Data Overmind is currently dedicating all resources to analysis of them.
Low enough to be ignored.


Were you able to say anything to that Kuyoh girl?
ONLY THAT IT IS A MACROSCOPIC INFORMATION CONSCIOUS-NESS.
NOT YET.
HAVE YOU FIGURED ANY-THING OUT?

Her cognitive processes remain unclear.
I was unable to share basic concepts.
THEIR DESIGNATION HAS BEEN TEMPORARILY DETERMINED.
The Heavenly Canopy Domain.
Because from our perspective, they came from the heavens.

β—4
AA
IT WAS LIKE SOMEONE WAS TRYING TO SLOW ME DOWN.
MAYBE IT WAS SOME KIND OF WARN-ING.
AA
...RAIN, HUH?
SAA (SHH)
SAAAA
HEY, WE'RE OVER HERE.
MORNING, KYON.
AA





SIGN: DREAM COFFEE SHOP

SO, A LOT'S HAP-PENED.

BUT I AM TRULY ELATED.

DO YOU KNOW HOW LONG I'VE WAITED FOR THIS DAY?

KYON.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO LOOK SO SCARY.

JUST LISTEN TO WHAT SHE HAS TO SAY.

TAN (BANG)

WE'RE FINALLY STANDING AT THE STARTING LINE.

THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH FOR THIS OPPOR-TUNITY.

CALL ME WHATEVER YOU LIKE.

IT'S MEANINGLESS.

NAMES ARE MERELY IDENTIFIERS OF CONVENIENCE.

LET'S START WITH YOUR NAME.

TCH...

EVEN IF IT'S NOT YOUR REAL ONE.

IN THIS DAY AND AGE, IT'S STILL USEFUL TO HAVE A NAME TO CALL SOMEONE.

YES, WELL, STILL.

KOHON (COUGH)

YES, NOW ON TO BUSINESS.

AND THE MOST IMPORTANT SUBJECT IS...

HKM...

YOU HEARD HIM.

SO NOW THAT WE'VE FINISHED OUR INTRODUCTIONS...

FUJIWARA.

THAT'S WHAT YOU CAN CALL ME.

WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS NOT HARUHI SUZUMIYA-SAN...

...BUT RATHER SASAKI-SAN WHO IS THE TRUE DIVINE BEING.

IS THERE ANY PART OF IT THAT'S HARD TO UNDERSTAND?

I MEAN EXACTLY WHAT I SAID.

WHAT...

...DID YOU SAY?

I HOPE I NEVER SEE MORI-SAN EVER AGAIN.

BUT THOSE GUYS ARE TERRIFY-ING.

IT WOULD'VE BEEN EASIER IF NOT FOR KOIZUMI-SAN.

I'VE BEEN WANTING TO TELL YOU FOR AGES.

WHEW, I FINALLY GOT IT OUT.

...WE MUST WATCH OVER SASAKI-SAN.

JUST AS KOIZUMI-SAN HAS BEEN TASKED WITH PROTECTING SUZUMIYA-SAN...

IT'S TRUE.

AND NOW I'VE FINALLY GOTTEN EVERYONE TOGETHER!

IN ORDER TO AVOID TOTAL IDENTITY COLLAPSE, I HAD TO DO THIS!

BUWAA (FWOOSH)

I'M NOT JUST GONNA BUY THAT, YOU KNOW.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT I'VE EXPERIENCED OVER THE PAST YEAR?

ほうっ…
HOU (WHEW)
THE ALIEN AND THE TIME TRAVELER BOTH WENT TO SUZUMIYA-SAN'S SIDE...
I WAS SO WORRIED I COULD HARDLY STAND IT!

SO KOIZUMI CALLS THAT BEING A PSEUDO-GOD—SO WHAT?
GIN (GLARE)
IF HARUHI ISN'T A WALKING MYSTERY ZONE, THEN NONE OF THAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED.

SA-SAKI!
WHAT DO YOU THINK !?
DON (SLAM)

THAT'S ONE WAY OF LOOKING AT IT.
ONE REALITY.

BUT REALITY IS NOT LIMITED TO THE SINGULAR.

BUT I ALSO HATE MYSELF WHEN I LET THAT KIND OF PERSON GET TO ME.

WHAT I HATE MOST OF ALL ARE SELF-CENTERED, PUSHY PEOPLE.

I TRY TO LIVE MY LIFE SO AS NOT TO CAUSE OTHER PEOPLE TROUBLE.

MM...

TO BE HONEST, I'M NOT SURE.

THIS IS A NATION OF LAWS, AND KIDNAPPING IS A MAJOR CRIME!

BUT TURNING THOSE IDEAS INTO REALITY IS TOTALLY DIFFERENT.

NO ONE'S IDEAS CAN BE LIMITED.

YOU CAN THINK WHATEVER YOU WANT.

THAT WAS A BIG STEP.

IT DID CONVEY THE FACT OF OUR EXISTENCE TO YOU, AFTER ALL.

...SO IT DIDN'T GO VERY WELL.

IT INVOLVED FORCEFUL INTERVENTION BY THE FUTURE...

BUT IT WASN'T A WASTE.

...I APOLOGIZE FOR THAT.

I KNEW THAT I WASN'T ALONE.

AND I KNEW THAT THE CAUSE WAS A SINGLE PERSON.

FOUR YEARS AGO...

...I SUDDENLY REALIZED I POSSESSED SOME KIND OF POWER.

I KNEW WITHOUT EVEN THINKING ABOUT IT THAT YOU WERE THE ONE WHO GAVE THIS TO ME.

THAT WAS SASAKI-SAN.

AT THE SAME TIME, WE WERE PUZZLED.

BECAUSE JUST AS WE WERE DECIDING WHETHER OR NOT TO CONTACT SASAKI-SAN...

ALL OF THEM HAD HAD THE SAME REALIZATION I DID.

I IMME-DIATELY STARTED SEARCHING FOR YOU.

IN THE PROCESS, I MET MY COMRADES.

BUT IT WASN'T INTER-ESTED IN SASAKI-SAN.
THEY BELIEVED IN THE APOTHEOSIS OF ONE SUZUMIYA-SAN.

...
ANOTHER ORGANI-ZATION HAD BEEN FORMED.
AND IT SEEMED VERY SIMILAR TO OURS.

BUT THEY BELIEVED THAT WE WERE THE MISTAKEN ONES...
WE MET SEVERAL TIMES TO TRY AND CORRECT THE MISTAKE.
WE WERE CON-FUSED.

THE AGENCY, I ASSUME?

SO?
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?

AND THAT BRINGS US TO NOW.

THEY WOULDN'T LISTEN.
COMMU-NICATION BROKE DOWN.

SOMEHOW THERE WAS A MISTAKE, AND IT WENT TO THE WRONG PERSON.

AND WE WANT YOUR COOPER-ATION.

IT'S BEST FOR THE WHOLE WORLD TO CORRECT THAT MISTAKE.

WE BELIEVE ...

...THE POWER HARUHI SUZUMIYA-SAN CURRENTLY HAS RIGHTFULLY BELONGS TO SASAKI-SAN.

I DON'T WANT THIS STRANGE POWER.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

THAT'S WHAT SHE SAYS, BUT...

SA-SAKI.

I'M SURE IT WOULD CAUSE ME A LOT OF PSYCHO-LOGICAL DISTRESS.

I'D VERY MUCH PREFER TO ABSTAIN.

IF YOU'LL PARDON MY SAYING SO. I'M AN INTROVERT.

SUCH AWESOME POWER WOULD BE TOO MUCH FOR ME.

DO YOU WANT TO LET HARUHI SUZUMIYA-SAN HAVE THAT POWER FOR-EVER?

ARE YOU REALLY OKAY WITH THAT!?

BAN (BANG)

YOU HEARD HER.

YOU MIGHT AS WELL GIVE UP.

...THE WHOLE WORLD WILL BE UNDER HER CONTROL.

AND IT WON'T BE JUST YOU...

DO YOU WANT TO BE CONSTANTLY MANIPULATED BY HER?

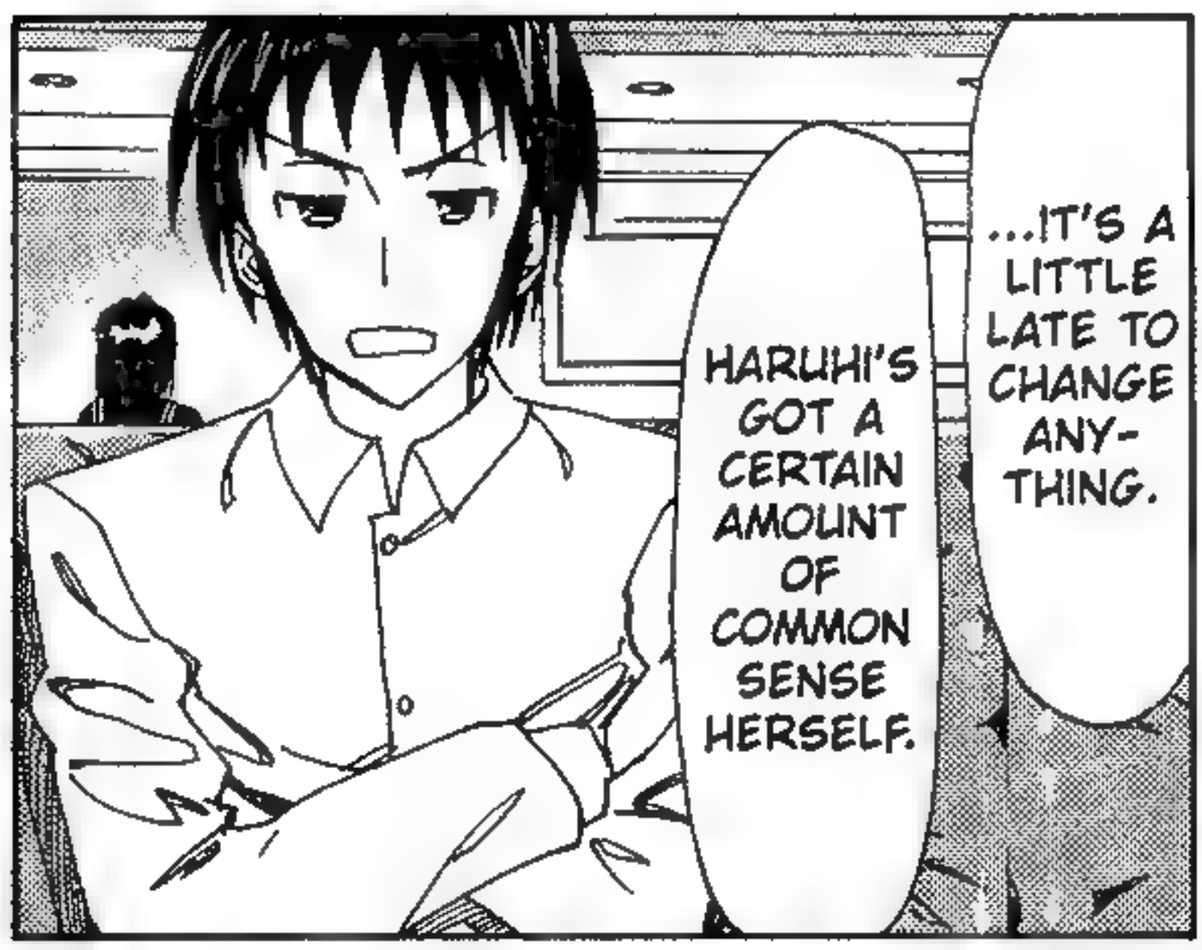
YOU WOULD NEVER DISTORT THE WORLD— I CAN TELL!

THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY.

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS KEEP LIVING YOUR LIFE.

BA (WHAM)

SASAKI-SAN, YOU'RE FAR BETTER SUITED TO THIS!


HARUHI'S GOT A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF COMMON SENSE HERSELF.
...IT'S A LITTLE LATE TO CHANGE ANY-THING.

I UNDER-STAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, BUT...

IF YOU GET NAGATO OR HARUHI ANGRY, THINGS COULD GET REALLY BAD.
I REALLY THINK YOU SHOULD JUST BACK OFF.

REALITY'S NOT GOING TO CHANGE JUST BECAUSE YOU START SAYING SASAKI SHOULD BE GOD.
SHE'S NOT GOING TO JUST DESTROY THE WORLD FOR NO REASON.

BUT IF IT WERE SASAKI, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE TO ANY-MORE.
FOLLOW-ING HER AROUND AND FIXING ALL THAT DAMAGE IS REALLY HARD, RIGHT?
TAN (THMP)

THAT'S WHY!
I WANT TO MAKE SURE SUZUMIYA-SAN NEVER USES HER TRANS-FORMATIVE POWERS!

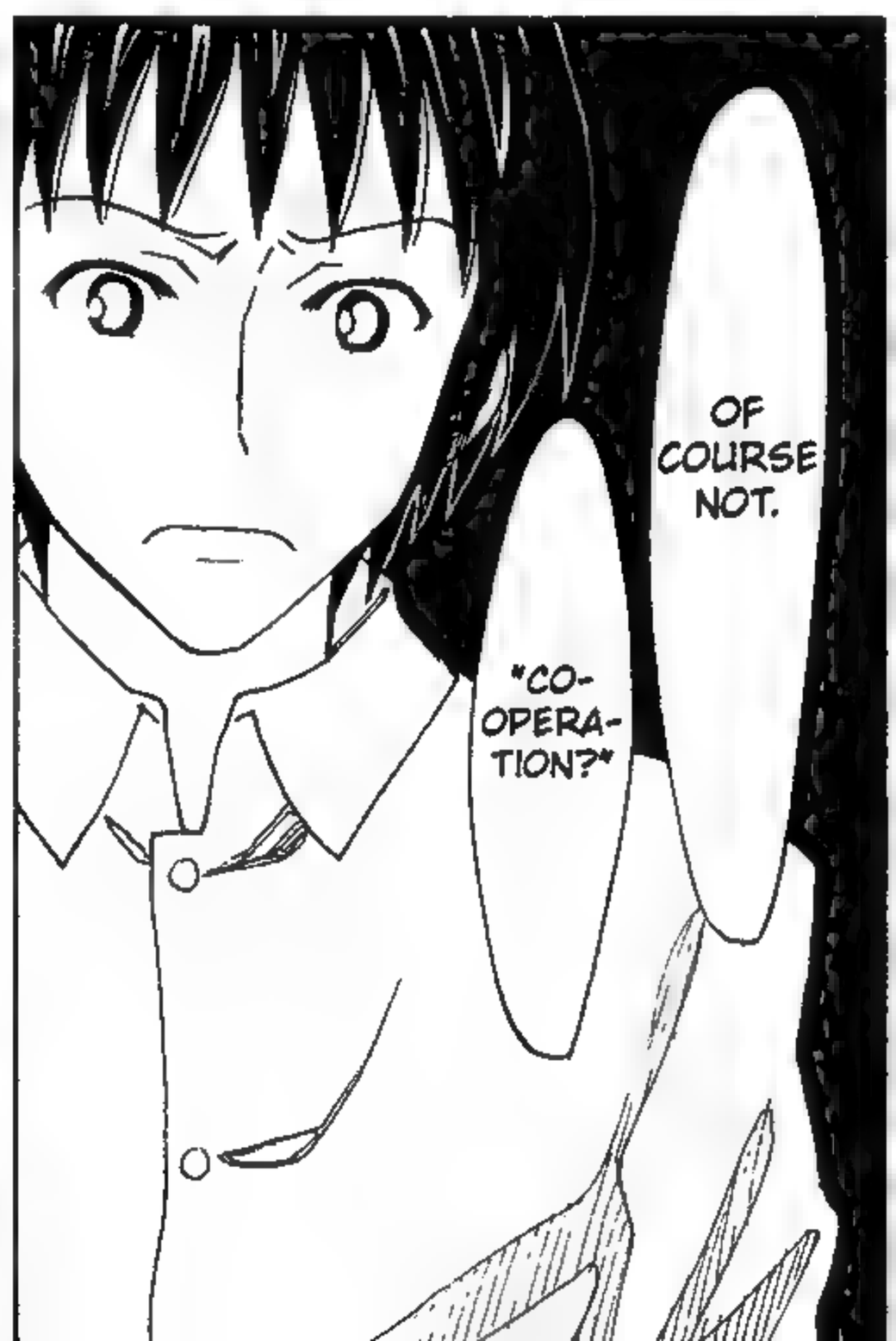
HAVE YOU EVEN COME TO A CON-SENSUS?
SO WHAT DO THESE TWO THINK?

I JUST WANT STABILITY IN THE WORLD...
...I WANT IT WITH ALL MY HEART!

THEY HAVEN'T BEEN THE LEAST BIT COOPERA-TIVE.
THIS IS ANOTHER BOTTLE-NECK.

YOU'RE RIGHT.

...BUT IT LOOKS LIKE I WAS WRONG.
I HAVEN'T FALLEN SO FAR AS TO HAVE TO COOPERATE WITH COMMON-ERS FROM THE PAST.
I THOUGHT THERE MIGHT BE SOME-THING TO BE GAINED HERE...


OF COURSE NOT.
"CO-OPERA-TION?"

UGH, I SWEAR!
GATAN (CLATTER)

WHETHER IT BE SUZUMIYA OR SASAKI.
SO LONG AS THE POWER EXISTS, IT DOESN'T MATTER WHOSE IT IS.

IT'LL BE FASTER FOR YOU TO JUST EXPERIENCE IT DIRECTLY.
THEN YOU'LL UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY.

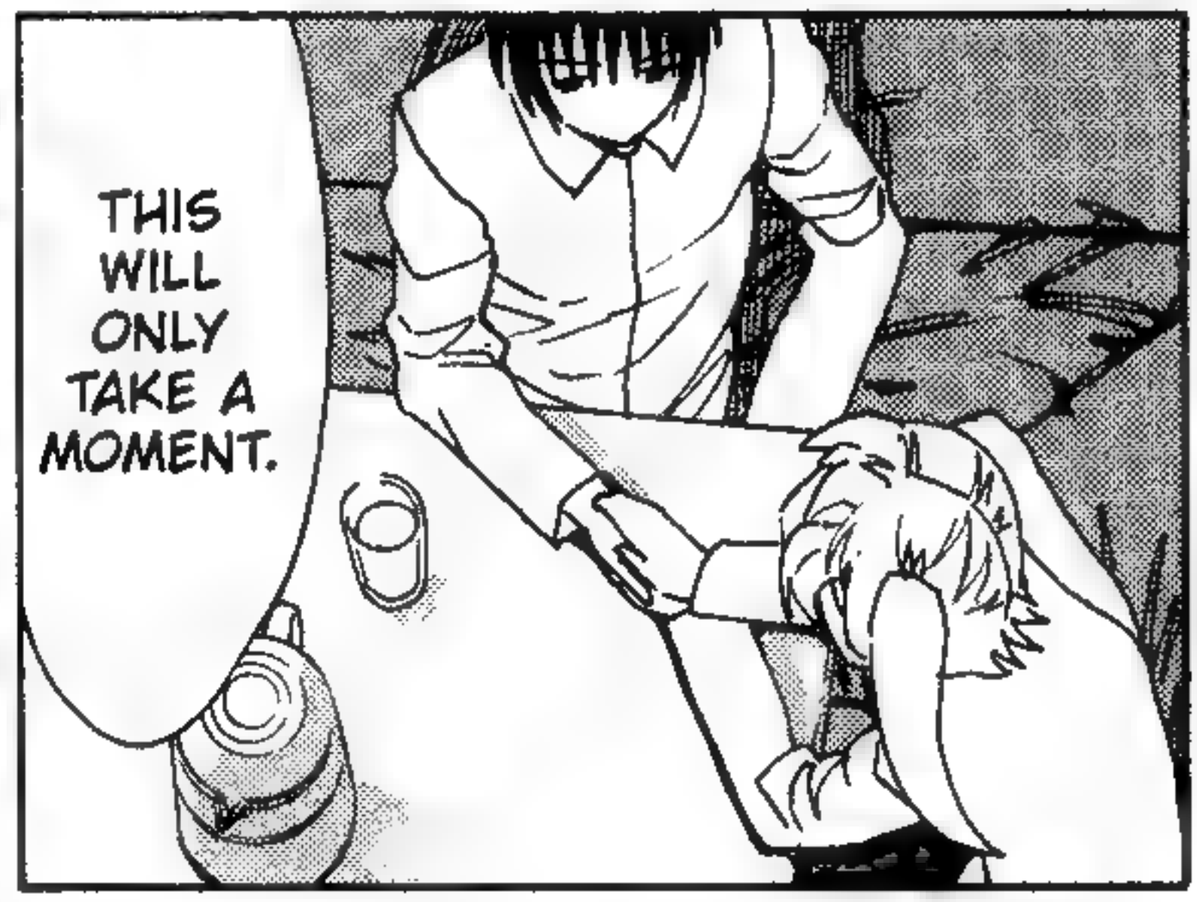
GIVE ME YOUR HAND.

JUST DO WHAT SHE ASKS, WILL YOU?
...?

KYON.

NOW CLOSE YOUR EYES.

SU (SHF)



TON
(TMP)

WHA...

CLOSED SPACE.

THAT'S WHAT KOIZUMI-SAN'S FACTION CALLS IT.

TO (TAP)
LET'S TAKE A LOOK OUTSIDE, SHALL WE?
IT'S DIFFERENT ...
BUT THIS WORLD HAS A SOFT, CREAM-COLORED SKY.
AND MORE THAN THAT...
THE SKY OF THE CLOSED SPACE I KNOW WAS AN EERIE GRAY COLOR.

THEY NEVER EXISTED HERE AT ALL.

THEY DON'T APPEAR HERE.

ZA (SWSH)

YUP, THAT'S RIGHT.

THE INSTRUMENTS OF HARUHI'S SUBCONSCIOUS.

THE BLUE-WHITE GIANTS, THE MASSES OF DESTRUCTIVE ENERGY...

IT IS.

IT'S THE SAME CLOSED SPACE YOU KNOW.

... SO THIS ISN'T ... CLOSED SPACE?

THE FLAVOR IS A REFLECTION OF THE INDIVIDUAL.

ZA

ZA.

IT'S LIKE ...

... DIFFERENT PEOPLE MAKING THE SAME DISH.

ZA

IT IS NOT A PLACE SUZUMIYA-SAN CONSTRUCTED.

THIS IS SASAKI-SAN'S CLOSED SPACE.

ZA

WHEN I'M HERE, I FEEL CALM.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

IT'S SO QUIET, AND THE AIR IS SO PEACEFUL.

ZA

WHICH PLACE MAKES YOU FEEL SAFER?

IT WILL BE UNSHAKABLY STABLE.

WITH EVERYTHING REMAINING AS IT IS.

SASAKI-SAN HAS NO DESIRE TO DESTROY OR REMAKE THE WORLD.

THE DISSOCIATION OF HARUHI SUZUMIYA IV : END

WHY?

SASAKI CREATED THIS PLACE...?

β—4

SASAKI-SAN DOESN'T WANT TO REMAKE OR DESTROY THE WORLD.

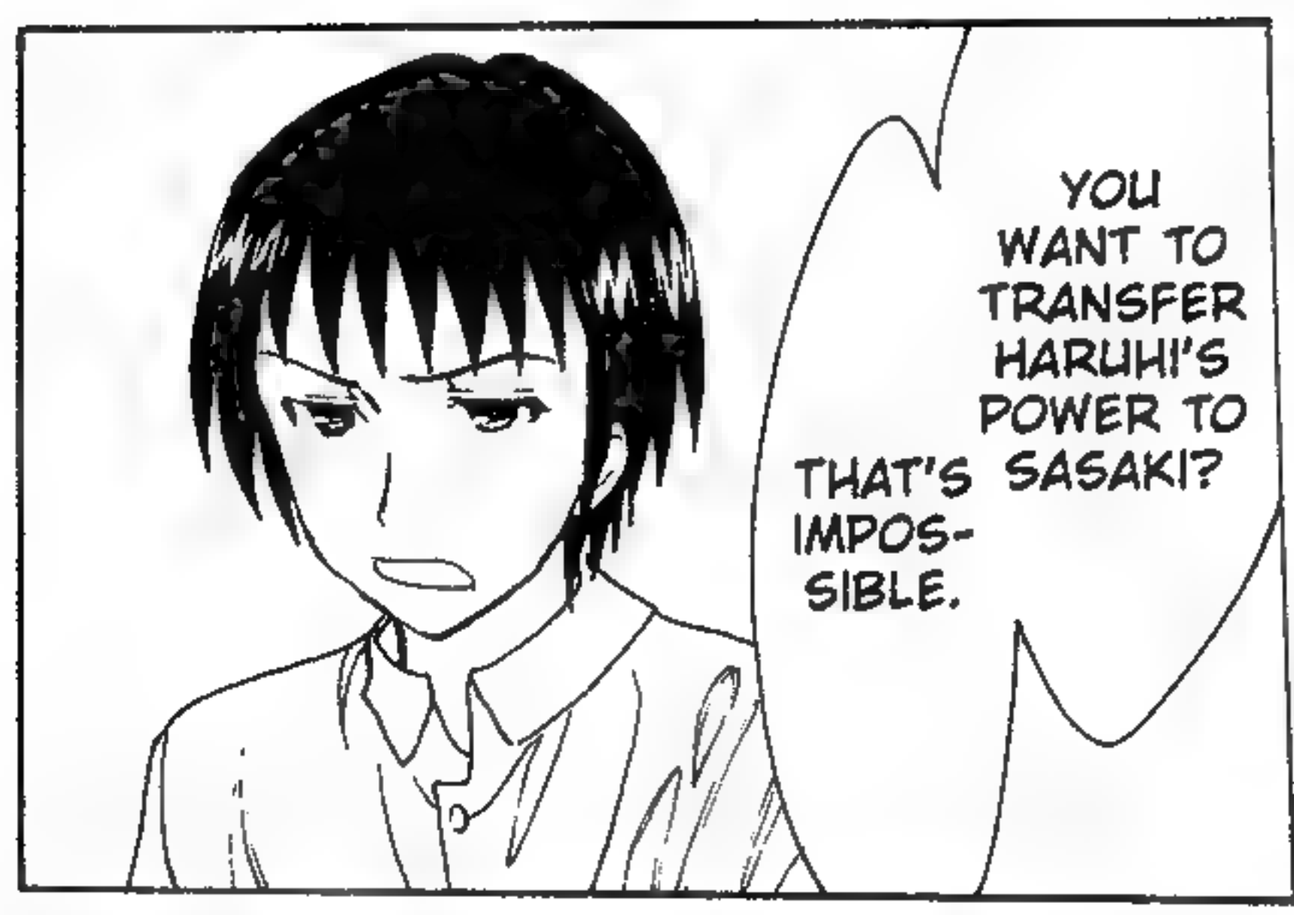
THAT'S THE BIGGEST DIFFERENCE FROM SUZUMIYA-SAN.

IT'S BEEN LIKE THIS FROM THE VERY BEGINNING.

THIS PLACE ISN'T A TIME-LIMITED, WALLED-OFF SPACE.

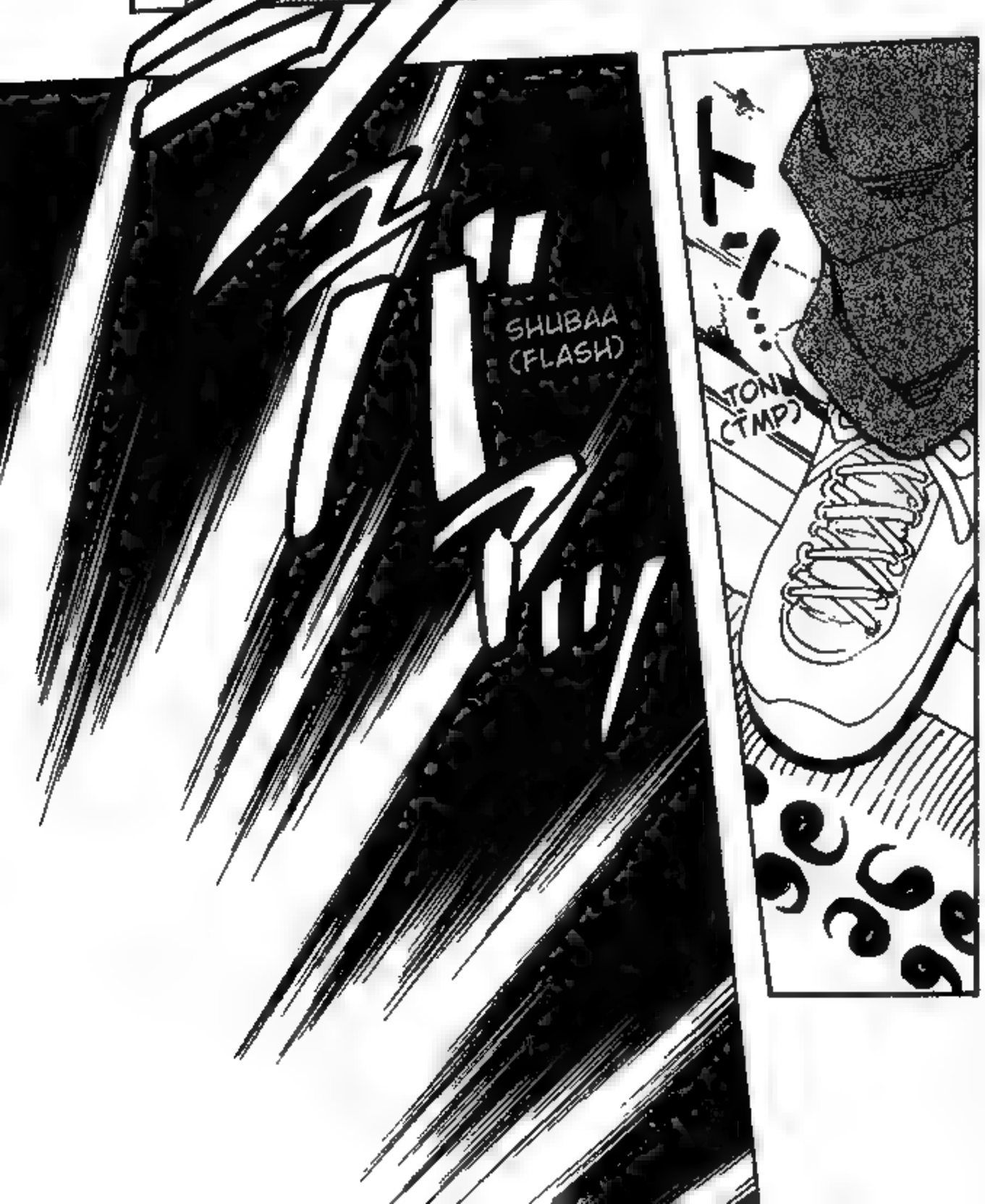
THERE IS NO REASON.

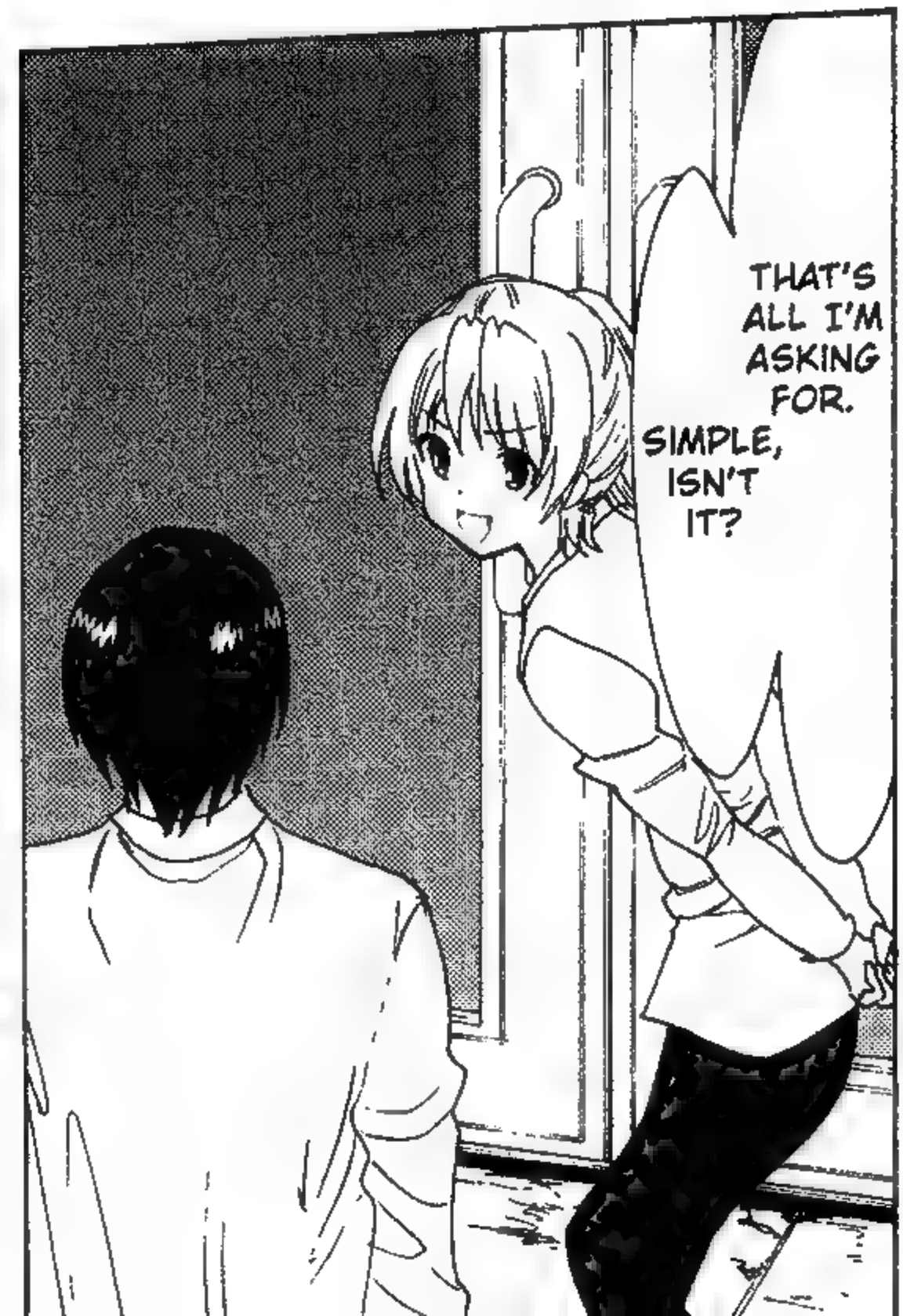
TO BE HONEST, SHE'S JUST AN ORDINARY GIRL.
I'LL ADMIT THAT SHE DOES MAKE THINGS COMPLICATED SOMETIMES, BUT...
HARUHI'S GOT COMMON SENSE TOO.
...SHE WILL NEVER TRY TO REMAKE THE WORLD AGAIN.
I CAN SAY THIS MUCH WITH CERTAINTY ...
NOT KOIZUMI-SAN AND NOT THE TIME TRAVELER.
YOU'RE CER-TAINLY THE TRUST-ING TYPE.
BUT I DON'T THINK ANYONE CAN SAY THAT FOR SURE.


YOU WANT TO TRANSFER HARUHI'S POWER TO SASAKI?
THAT'S IMPOS-SIBLE.

SO WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?

IF BOTH YOU AND SASAKI-SAN AGREE...
IF YOU'LL COOP-ERATE WITH US...
NOT NECES-SARILY.


SHUBAA (FLASH)
TON (TMP)


THAT'S ALL I'M ASKING FOR. SIMPLE, ISN'T IT?

E8

HEY.

WEL-COME BACK, I GUESS?

KA (FLASH)

WHAT HAPPENED JUST NOW?

...

ANY THOUGHTS ...?

SO, DID YOU SEE IT?

MY SUP-POSED INTERIOR WORLD?

...YEAH.

YOU WERE JUST LIKE THAT FOR MAYBE TEN SECONDS.

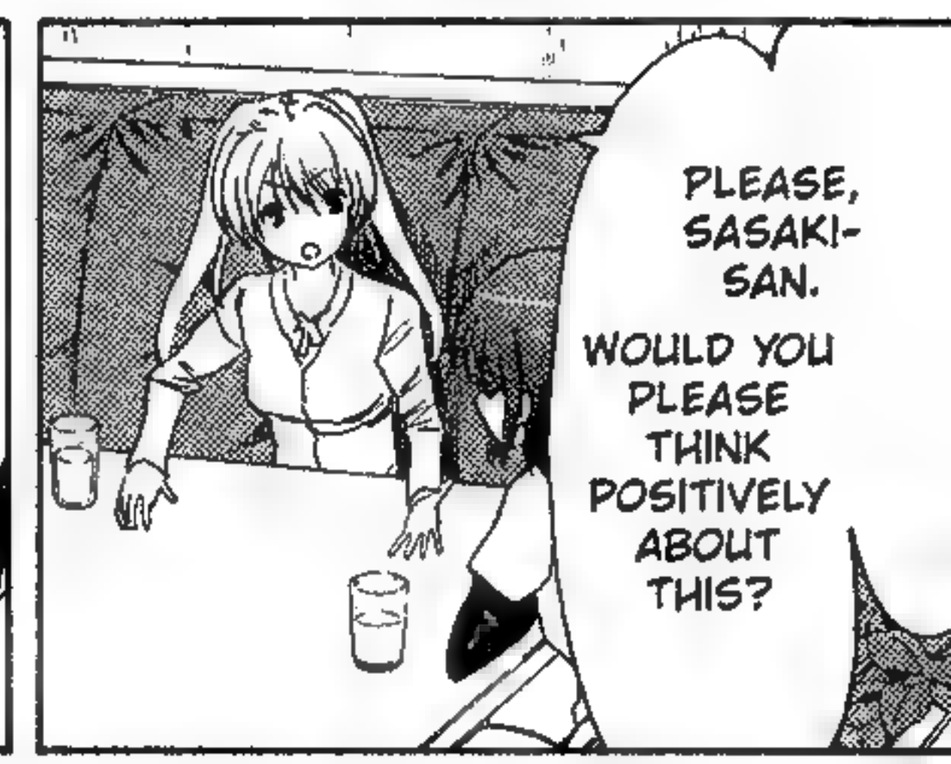
NOTHING, REALLY.

I THOUGHT NOT.
HEH HEH...
THAT'S KIND OF EMBAR-RASSING.

NOT... REALLY.

IT'S NOT A MATTER OF PROS AND CONS!
HOW SHOULD I KNOW?

WHAT DO YOU THINK, KYON?
SHOULD I HAVE THAT KIND OF POWER?


PLEASE, SASAKI-SAN.
WOULD YOU PLEASE THINK POSITIVELY ABOUT THIS?

THE TIME TRAV-ELER, FUJI-WARA.
AND THE OTHER TWO...

SHE PROBABLY WOULD BE A LOT SAFER THAN HARUHI. BUT NO...
...THAT DIDN'T MATTER.

I WASN'T EVEN GONNA CONSIDER IT.

TAKING THEIR SIDE WAS TOO ABSURD TO CONTEMPLATE.

YOUR COFFEE, MISS...

BUT THERE'S A PROBLEM RIGHT NOW...

I WANT TO STAY YOUR FRIEND.

SASAKI.

...HUH?

GASHA (GRAB)

IS THERE A PROBLEM?

PROBLEM?

CHA (CLINK)

EXCUSE ME, MISS?

MIGHT I ASK YOU TO LET ME GO?

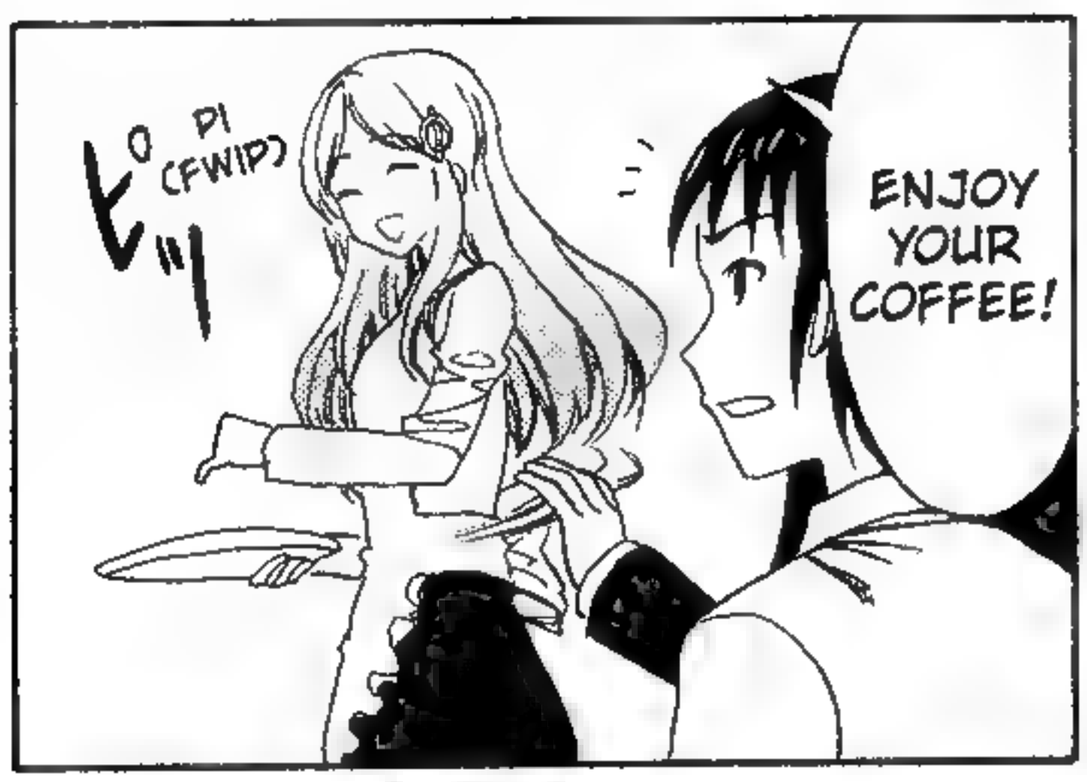
FU FU

I CANNOT FINISH SERVING YOUR ORDER.

STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS AREN'T ALLOWED TO WORK PART-TIME, AFTER ALL.

PLEASE KEEP IT A SECRET FROM THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESI-DENT.

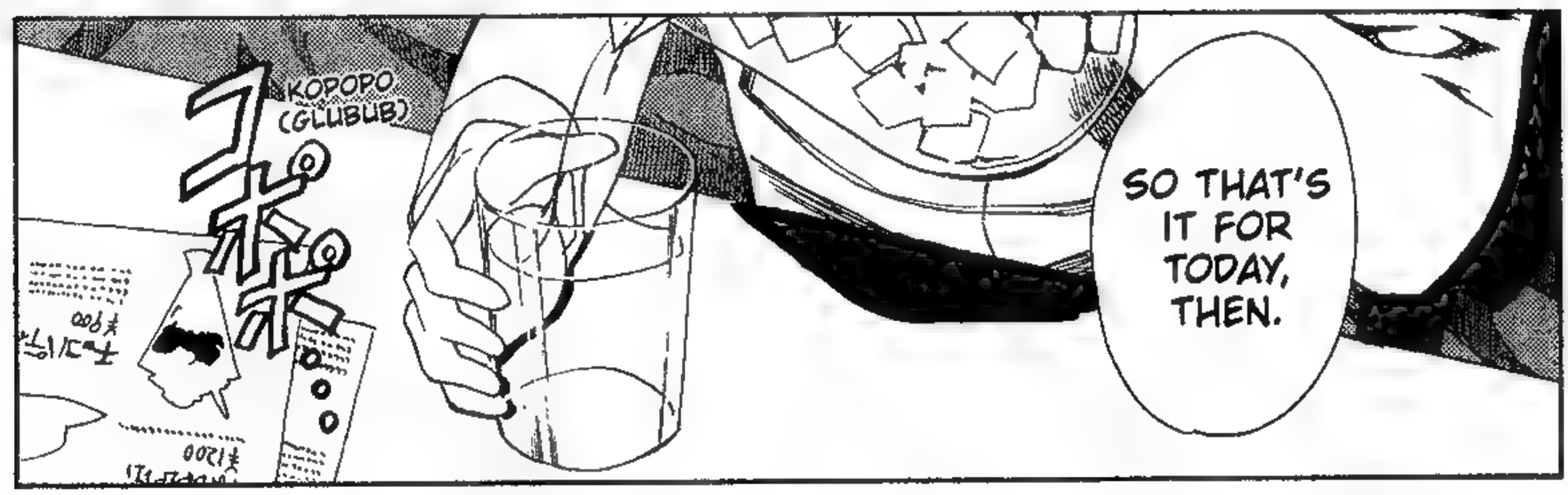
I WORK HERE PART-TIME.



HA HA!
THIS IS A FARCE AMONG FARCES!
YOU DON'T SEE SOMETHING THIS COMPLETELY ABSURD EVERY DAY.
HEH HEH ...
HA HA!
NOW THIS IS SOMETHING WORTH SEEING!
HA!
KO (CLICK)
?
SUU (SWSH)
CHA (CHK)
WHY DID SHE EVEN COME HERE?
...

IT WOULD'VE BEEN NICE TO TALK A LITTLE MORE.
SASAKI-SAN, I'LL SEE YOU SOON, ALL RIGHT?

HNNNN!
I'M PRETTY TIRED MYSELF.

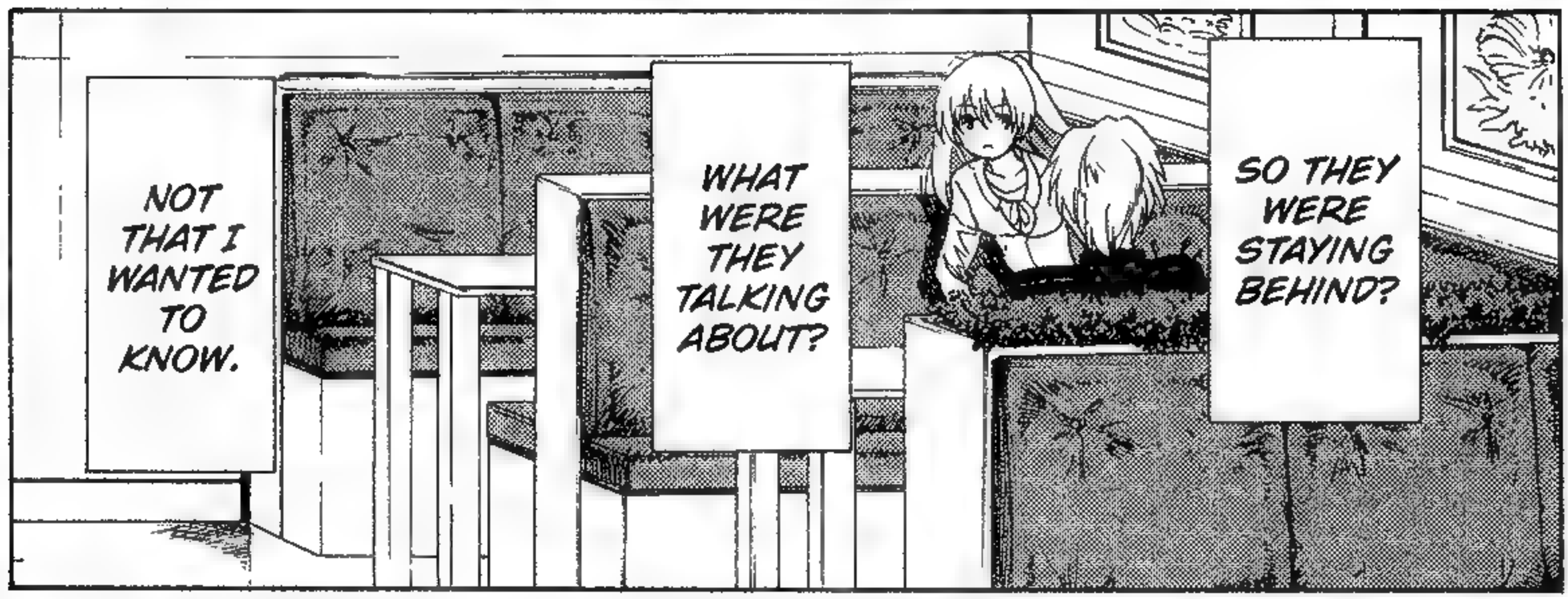

KOPOPO (GLUBUB)
SO THAT'S IT FOR TODAY, THEN.

I HONESTLY DON'T WANT THIS TO DRAG ON TOO LONG.
THE NEXT NATIONAL MOCK EXAM IS COMING UP.
SO WE'VE GOT TO SETTLE THINGS QUICKLY.

KYON.
I THINK I'LL BE CONTACT-ING YOU SOON.

SHE WAS THE SAME SASAKI SHE'D BEEN IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.
I WAS GLAD IT WAS HER.
I COMPLETELY AGREED.

THAT'S FOR SURE.


NOT THAT I WANTED TO KNOW.
WHAT WERE THEY TALKING ABOUT?
SO THEY WERE STAYING BEHIND?

NOT THEN.
NOT...
ZAAAAA (SHHHH)

GYURARARA (WHRRR)

ARE YOU REALLY OKAY WITH THAT!?

FUJI-WARA— THAT'S WHAT YOU CAN CALL ME.

CA A LO PSYCH LOGICAL DISTRESS.

SUCH AWESOME POWER WOULD BE

...SASAKI-SAN WHO IS THE TRUE DIVINE BEING.

AT PRESENT, THE RISK IS LOW.

RARARA

.....

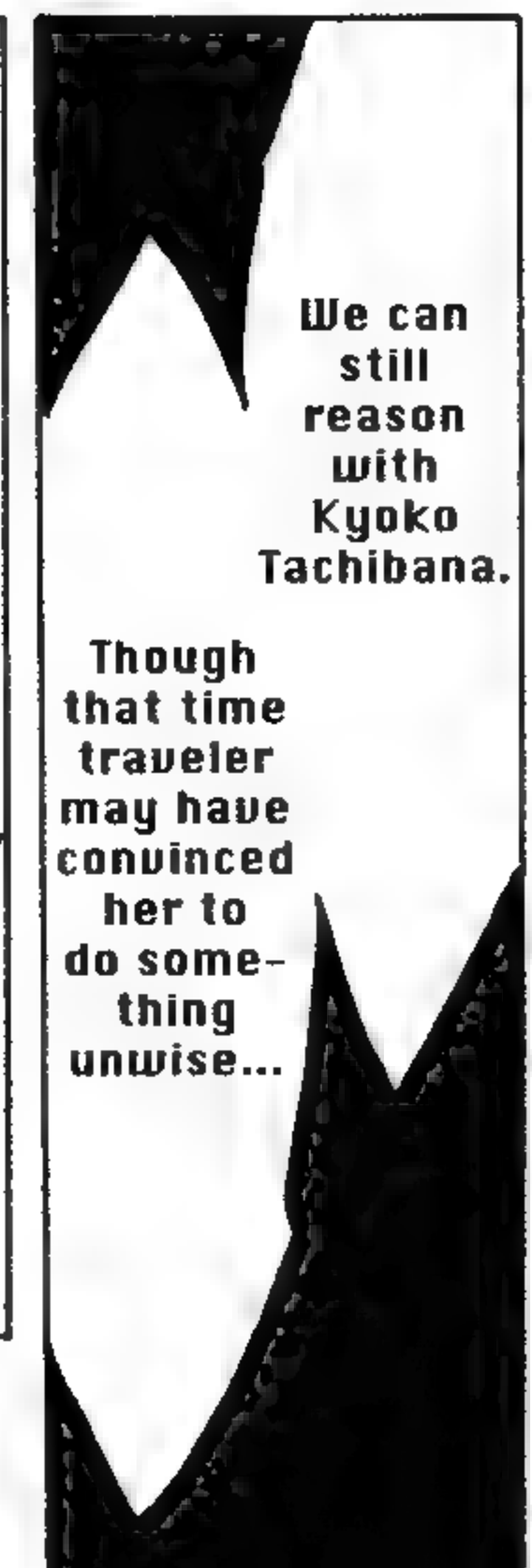
HELLO?

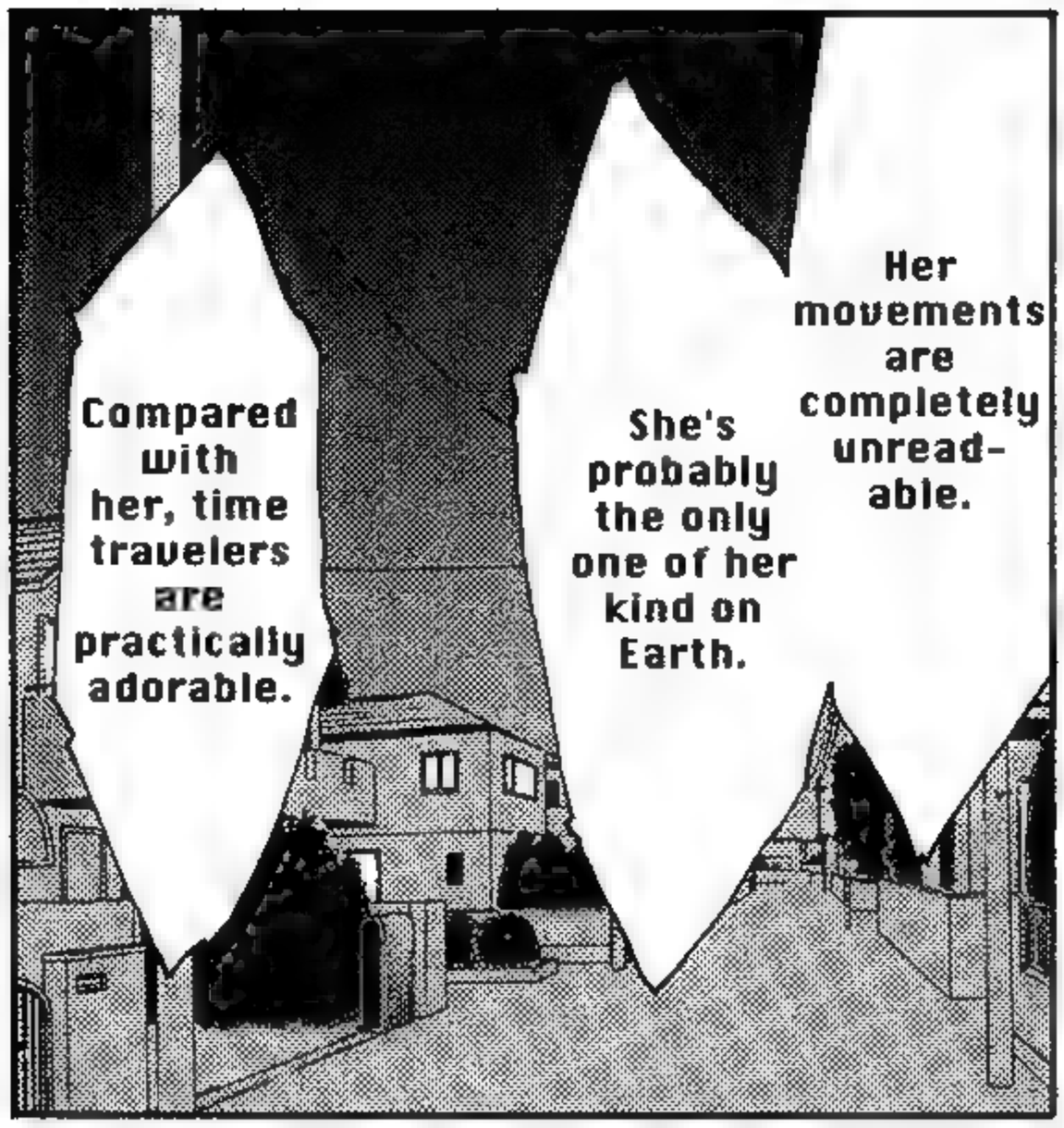
THIS IS KOIZUMI.

α—2

ABOUT THAT GROUP TODAY— WHAT THE HELL WERE THEY?

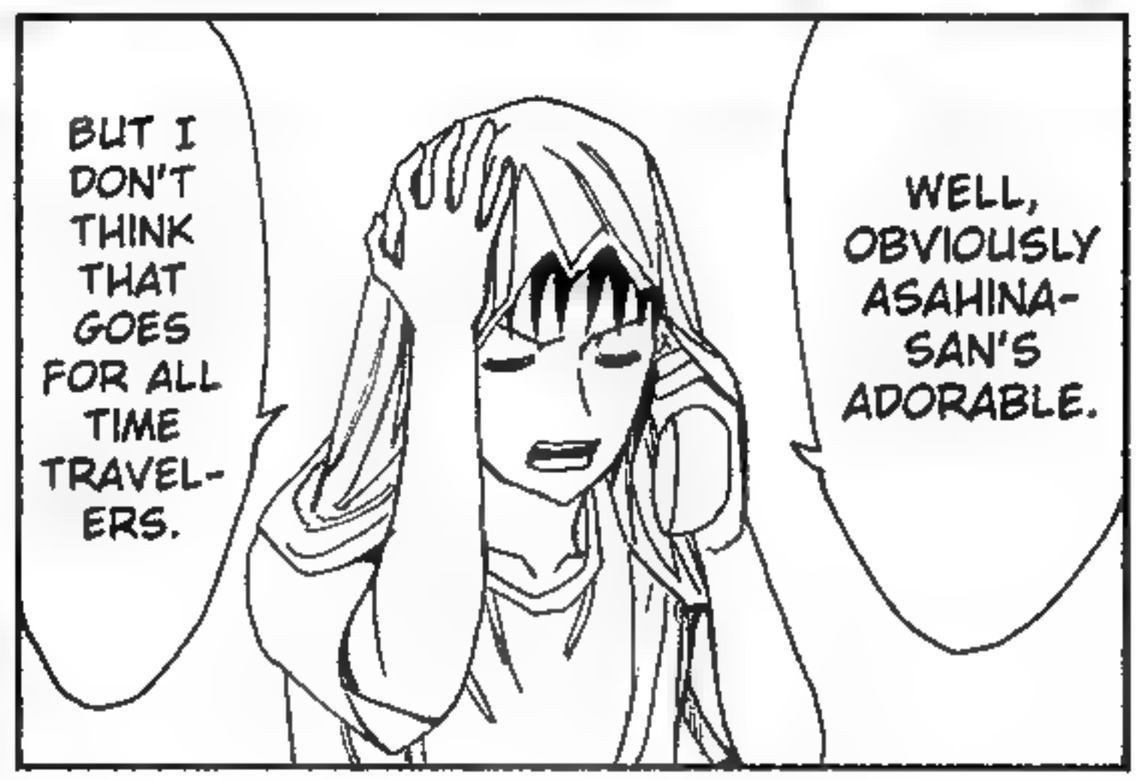
OH, IT'S YOU.

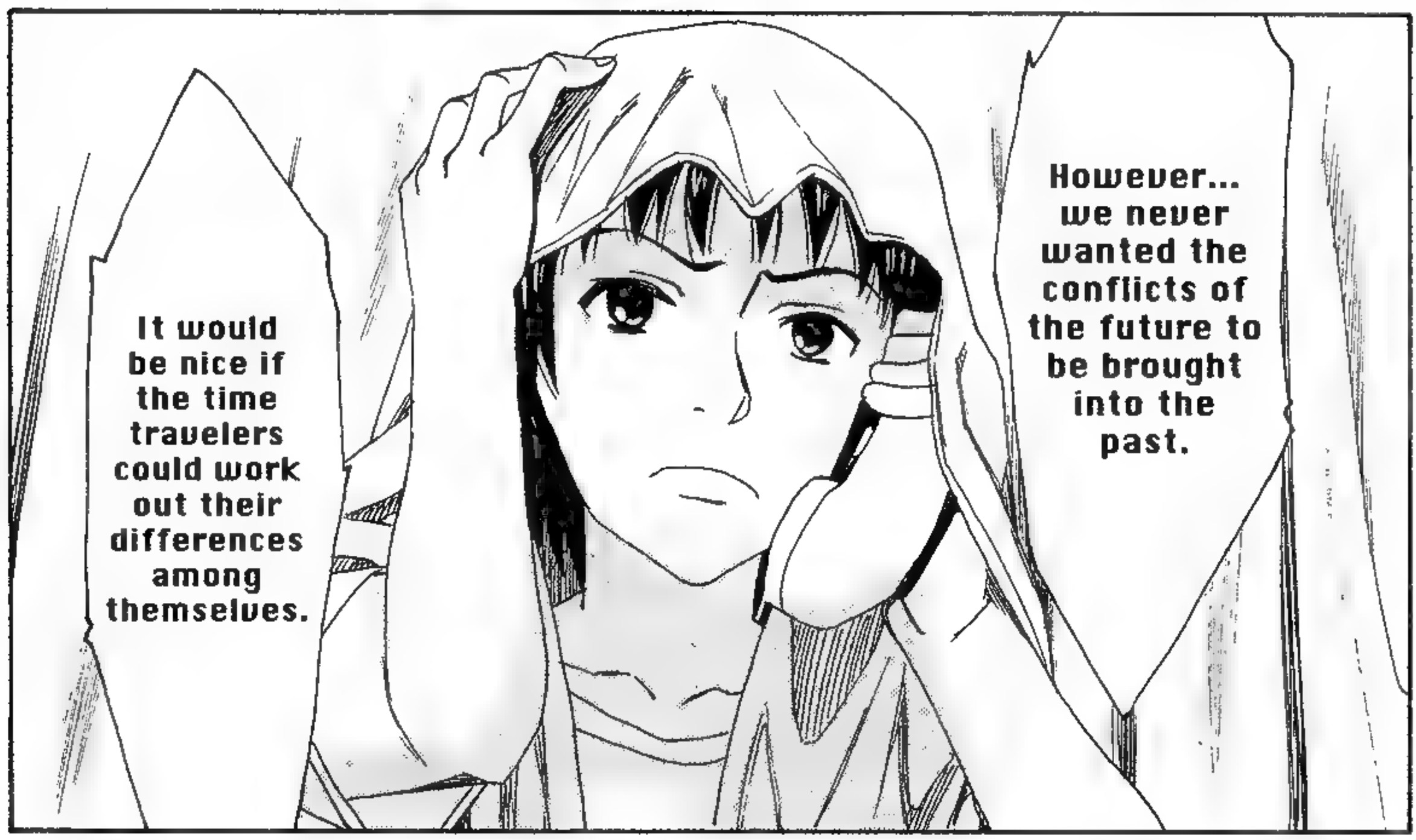



Compared with her, time travelers are practically adorable.
She's probably the only one of her kind on Earth.
Her movements are completely unread-able.

THAT OTHER T.F.E.I., THOUGH ...

ASAHINA-SAN IS UNDER OUR PROTEC-TION.
I QUITE AGREE.

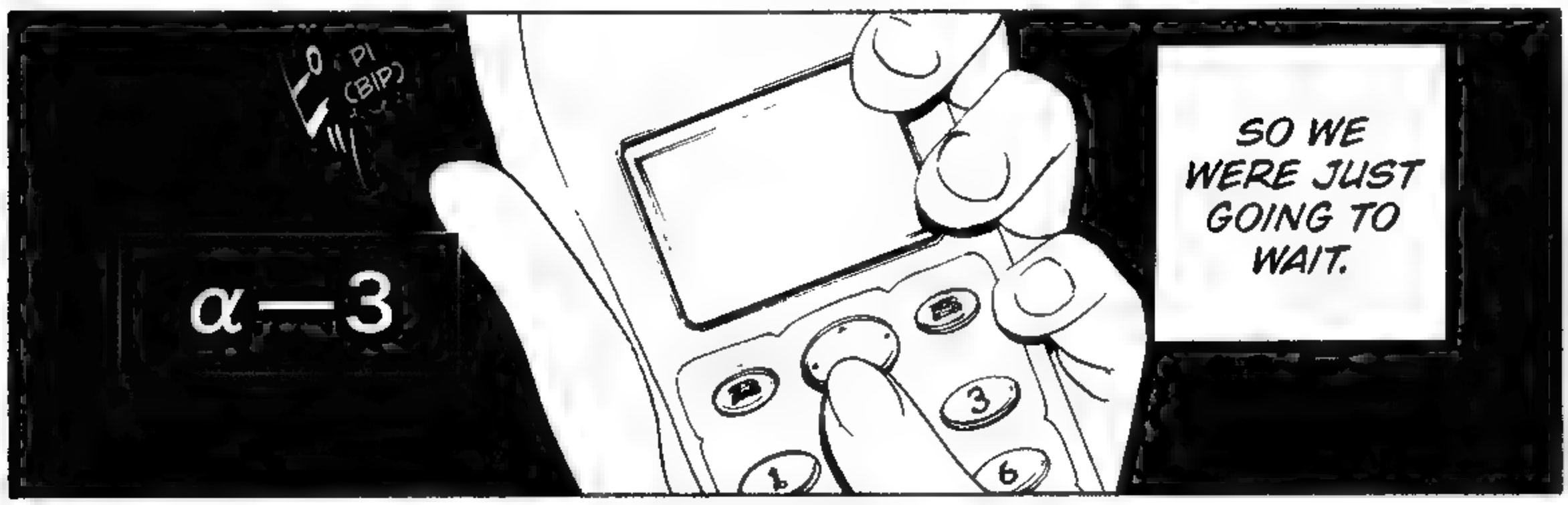

BUT I DON'T THINK THAT GOES FOR ALL TIME TRAVEL-ERS.
WELL, OBVIOUSLY ASAHINA-SAN'S ADORABLE.


It would be nice if the time travelers could work out their differences among themselves.
However... we never wanted the conflicts of the future to be brought into the past.

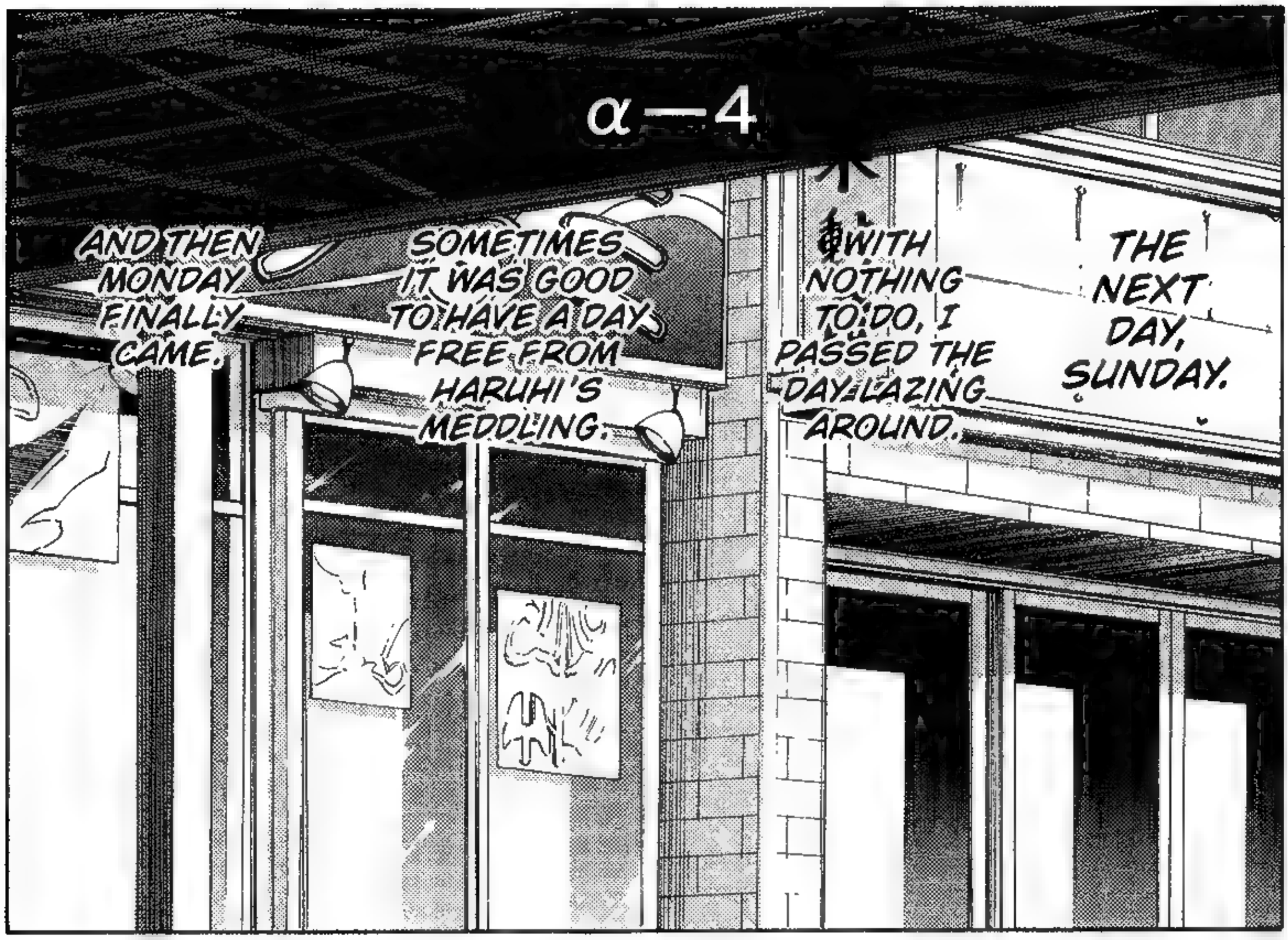
We need only to wait for our opponent to take action.

And no matter what, we still have Suzumiya-san on our side.

NAGATO-SAN AND I WILL TAKE CARE OF THE REST.

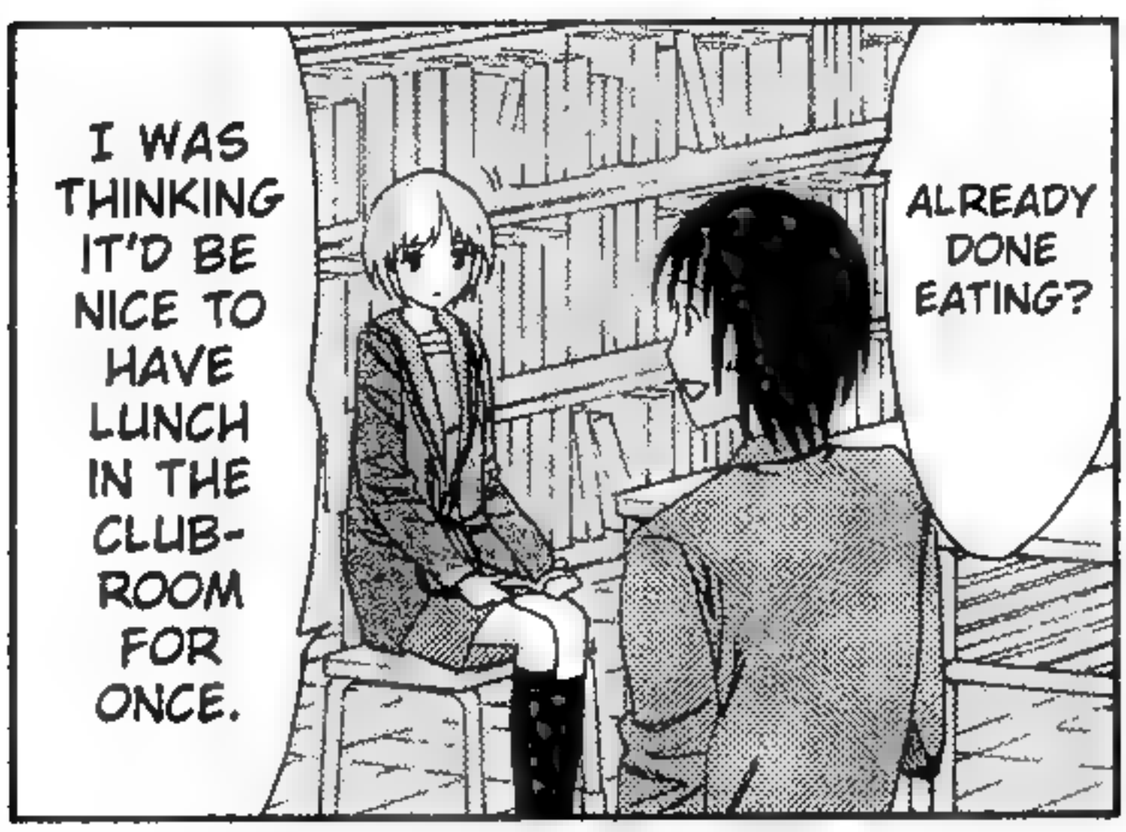


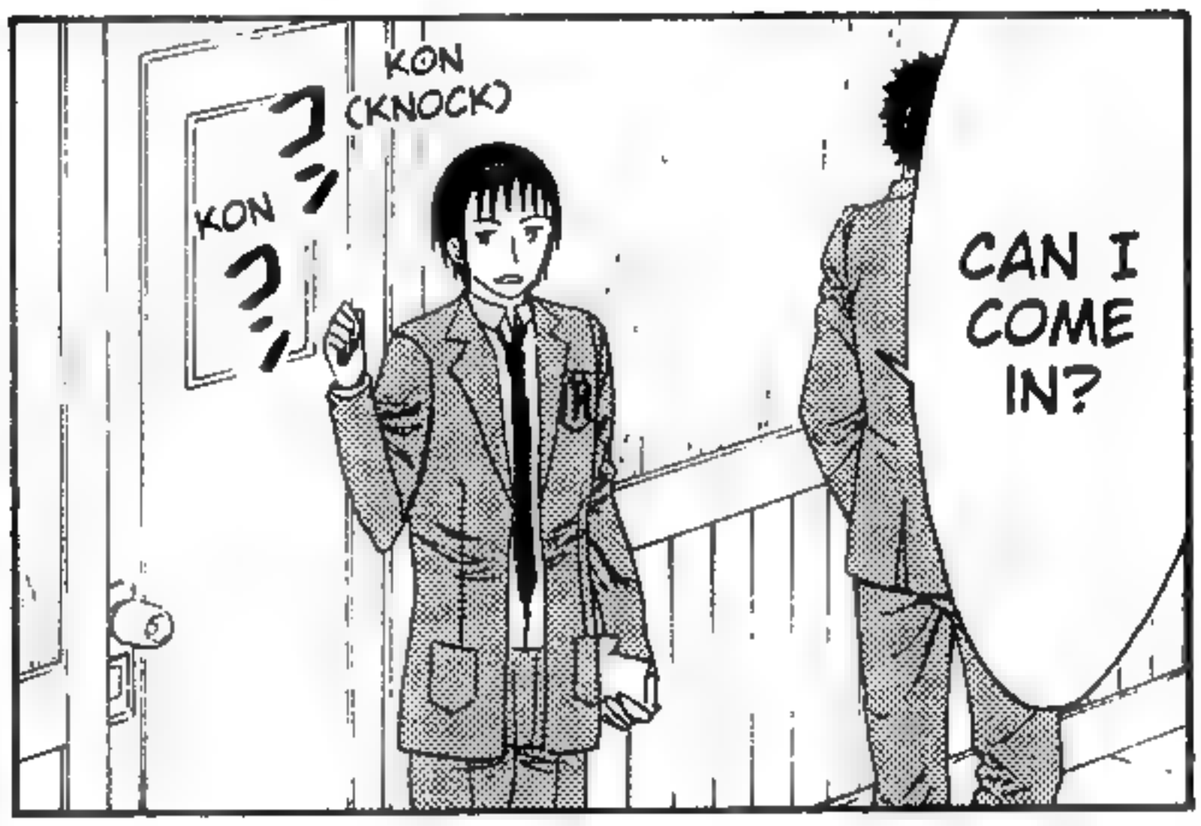
FUU (SIGH)
I NEEDED TO GIVE MY BODY SOME REST...
AND TOMOR-ROW WAS SUNDAY.
GORON (FLOP)
IF KUYOH WERE SOME KIND OF DEATH GODDESS THAT WAS AN IMMEDIATE THREAT...
...NAGATO WOULDN'T JUST STAND THERE AND DO NOTHING.


α—4
AND THEN MONDAY FINALLY CAME.
SOMETIMES IT WAS GOOD TO HAVE A DAY FREE FROM HARUHI'S MEDDLING.
WITH NOTHING TO DO, I PASSED THE DAY LAZING AROUND.
THE NEXT DAY, SUNDAY.

α—5

WAI
ワイ
ワイ
WAI
WAI (CHATTER)
ワイ





IT IS CLEAR THAT THEY ARE INTERESTED IN HARUHI SUZUMIYA'S DATA ALTERATION ABILITIES.

...YES.

...WHAT NOW?

THE HEAVENLY ...

THEY OF THE HEAV-ENLY CANOPY DOMAIN ...

THAT IS ONE OF THE REASONS THEY DISPATCHED A HUMANOID INTERFACE TO THIS WORLD.

...LIKE UP THERE?

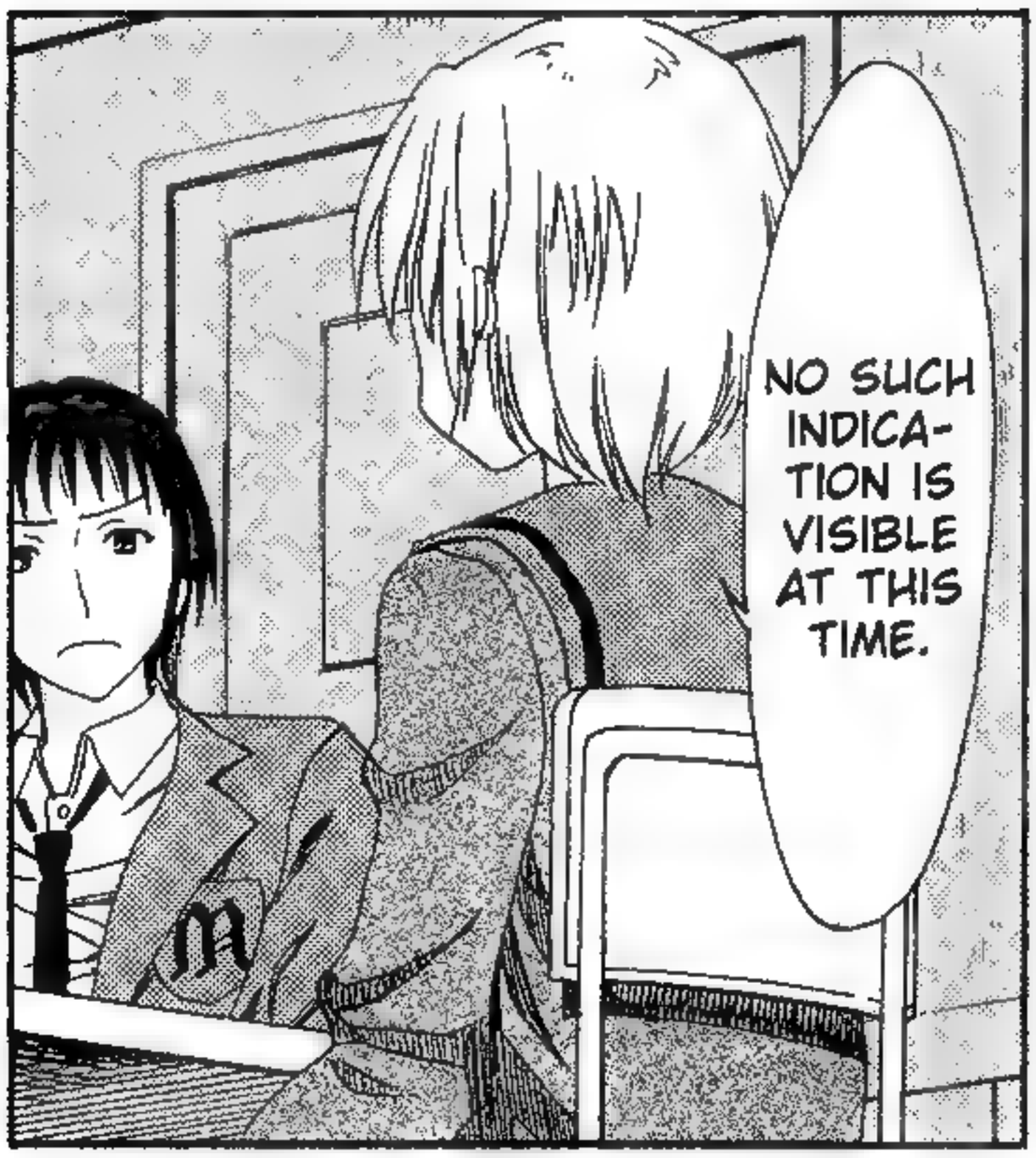
HEAVENLY...

IT IS A SIG-NIFICANT STEP FOR-WARD.

UNTIL NOW, WE HAD NO CONCEPT BY WHICH TO REFER TO THEM.

THE HEAVENLY CANOPY DOMAIN.

THAT IS THE TERM THAT WAS PROVISIONALLY ASSIGNED TO THEM.


NO SUCH INDICATION IS VISIBLE AT THIS TIME.

DO YOU THINK THOSE JERKS...
...ARE GONNA TOSS US INTO ANOTHER DIMENSION AGAIN?

IT IS PREDICTED THAT DIRECT PHYSICAL CONTACT WILL PREDOMINATE FOR SOME TIME.
AN INTERFACE CAPABLE OF VERBAL CONTACT HAS REVEALED ITSELF.

OR TO MIKURU ASAHINA ...
...AND ITSUKI KOIZUMI.

I WILL DEFEND AGAINST ATTACKS FROM THE INDIVIDUAL DESIGNATED KUYOH SUOH.
I WILL NOT ALLOW HARM TO COME TO YOU OR HARUHI SUZUMIYA.

あんぐ ANGU CNOM

YOU MIGHT NOT HAVE ANY CONCERN FOR YOURSELF, BUT...

...I DO, AND SO DOES HARUHI.

IT'S NO FUN JUST BEING PROTECTED ALL THE TIME.

OR YOU, NAGATO.

THAT GOES FOR YOU TOO.

.....

MY ABILITIES MIGHT BE AS TINY AS A SPECK OF SPACE DUST, BUT...

...I KNOW I CAN DO SOME-THING.

HEH...

TO THINK THAT SILENCE COULD MAKE ME FEEL SO AT EASE...

THERE WAS NO COMPARISON WITH THE DAY SHE'D FIRST INVITED ME UP TO HER APARTMENT.

WAIT JUST A MINUTE.

UH... I GUESS.

YOU KNOW THERE'S A MATH QUIZ TOMORROW, RIGHT?

GUI (GRAB)

GRAB YOUR MATH TEXTBOOK AND GET OVER HERE.

HOW CAN YOU BE SUCH A SLACKER?

TA (TAP)

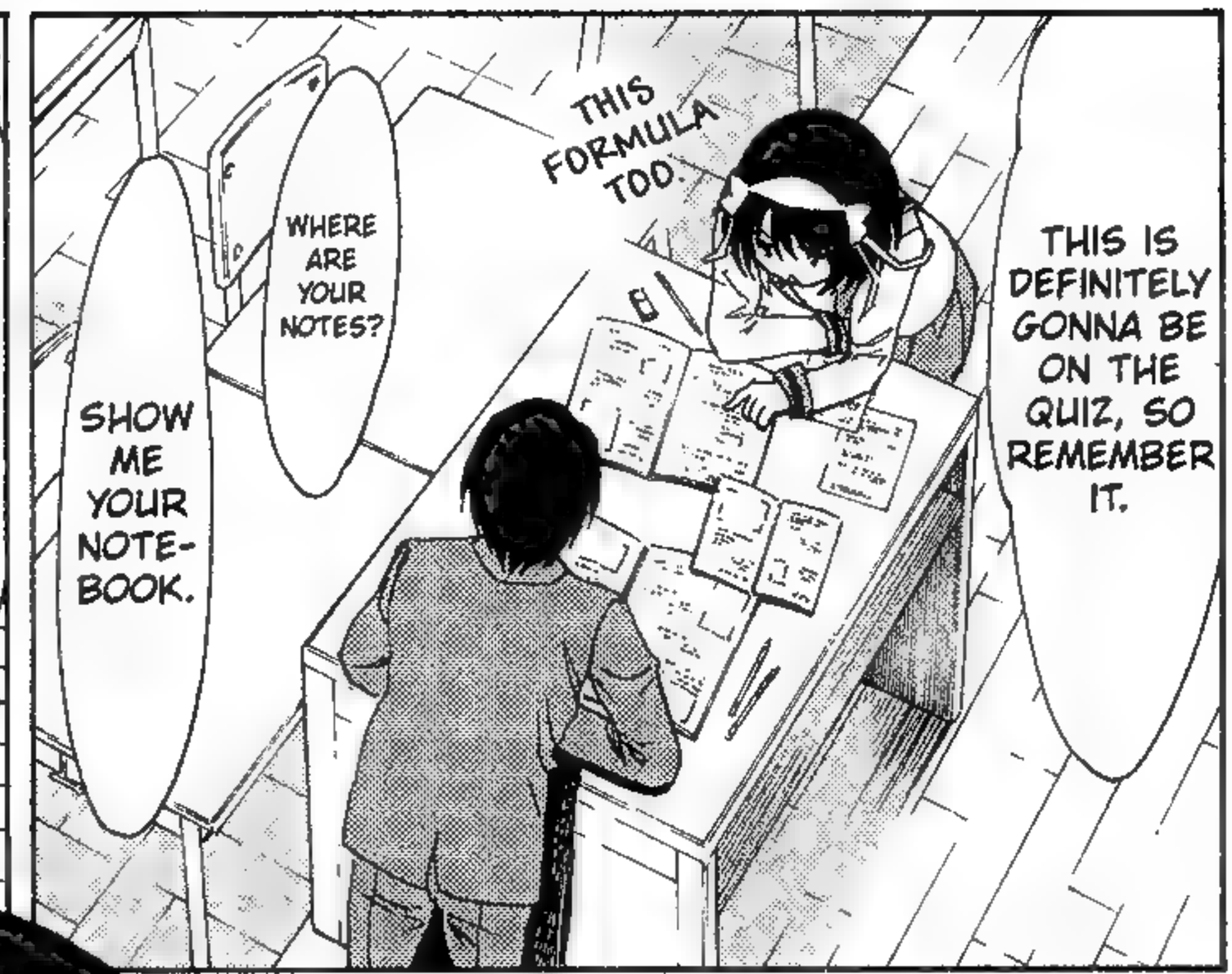
YOU'RE BRINGING DOWN THE SOS BRIGADE AVERAGE WITH THINGS LIKE THIS.

A-HA!

THAT FIGURES.

SO YOU FORGOT ABOUT IT, HUH?

YOU SLEPT THROUGH THE LAST HALF!
WHAT'S THIS?


SHOW ME YOUR NOTE-BOOK.
WHERE ARE YOUR NOTES?
THIS FORMULA TOO.
THIS IS DEFINITELY GONNA BE ON THE QUIZ, SO REMEMBER IT.

.....
数学I
YOU SLEPT THROUGH THE LAST HALF OF LITERATURE CLASS.
SO WHAT?
BOOK: MATH I

...AND GETTING CLUB MATE-RIALS READY.
... CLEAN-ING AND REAR-RANGING MY ROOM...
LIKE TUTORING THE NEIGHBOR KID...

I WAS BUSY WITH STUFF YESTER-DAY.
HMPH!
IF I DECIDE IT'S OKAY TO SLEEP, THEN I'LL SLEEP.

HMPH.
AT LEAST FIGURE OUT WHAT I'M DOING WITH YOUR OWN HEAD, WILL YOU?
YOU'VE BEEN IN THE BRIGADE FOR A YEAR NOW, HAVEN'T YOU?

MATE-RIALS?
WHAT KIND OF MATE-RIALS?

YOU THINK YOU CAN BE THEIR UPPER-CLASSMAN LIKE THAT?
WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO WHEN WE GET NEW MEMBERS?
THIS IS WHY YOU'RE STILL SUCH A LOW-LEVEL MEMBER.
YEAH, YEAH.
YOU NEED TO LEARN HOW TO READ YOUR BRIGADE CHIEF'S INTENTIONS.

I WAS MORE WORRIED ABOUT RUNNING INTO TACHI-BANA AND THE REST ON SATUR-DAY MORN-ING.
BUT THERE WAS NO POINT IN WOR-RYING ABOUT IT.

BUT HOW?
SO SHE WAS STILL PLANNING TO RECRUIT NEW BRIGADE MEMBERS.

HMPH...
I HADN'T FORGOTTEN ABOUT THE MATH QUIZ.
I WAS JUST PLANNING TO ASK KUNIKIDA ABOUT IT TOMORROW.

...IT REALLY DIDN'T MATTER ANYMORE.
BUT I'D GOTTEN HELP FROM HARUHI, SO...

TA (DASH)
QUIT SPACING OUT AND LET'S GO.
MIKURU-CHAN AND THE OTHERS ARE WAITING!
OH, SUZUMIYA-SAN, KYON-KUN!
TA

WE'VE BEEN WAITING!
ER, NOT ME, I MEAN...
UGH.

THEY'RE ALL WAITING FOR YOU.

ZAWA

ZAWA (CHATTER)

UM, THEY'VE BEEN SHOWING UP FOR THE LAST HALF HOUR...

...OH, MAN.

YES!

ARE YOU GUYS... HOPING TO JOIN THE CLUB?

FRESH FACES GREETED ME EVERY-WHERE I LOOKED.

AROUND TEN OF THEM.

HURRY AND CHANGE INTO YOUR MAID OUTFIT!

WHAT'RE YOU DOING, MIKURU-CHAN?

BA (WHAP)

KI (SCREE)

HEY, KYON!

HA WA WA WA ...

QUIT SPAC-ING OUT!

DO

DO

DO (STOMP)

YOU'RE OUR MASCOT, AFTER ALL!

KEEP 'EM HERE, EVEN IF YOU HAVE TO USE A TRANQUILIZER DART!

DON'T LET ANYONE ESCAPE!

Although we're a little flustered today.

First, let's all be happy for this chance!

PAAA (BEAM)

I'M GLAD YOU ALL CAME.

THERE'S ONLY ONE MAID THAT WILL SERVE YOU FREE TEA...

LOOK ALL OVER THE NATION, IF YOU LIKE.

OUR BRIGADE HAS AN EXCELLENT MAID AS WELL AS AN ERRAND BOY.

...AND SHE'S RIGHT HERE IN THE SOS BRIGADE!!

BA

PECHI (CLAP)
PECHI
PECHI
PECHI
PECHI
PECHI
OOOOOOOH!!!
?
PACHI (CLAP)
PACHI
PACHI
PACHI
PACHI
PACHI
PACHI
PACHI
PACHI

OOOOOOO (WHOOOO)

PACHI

PACHI

PACHI

PACHI

PACHI

PACHI

PACHI

PACHI

PACHI

PACHI

WAIT, UNPRECEDENTED? NEVER BEFORE ...?

WASN'T THIS A TOTALLY UNPRECEDENTED WELCOMING?

OOO

WHAT WAS UP WITH THIS REACTION?

AND I WAS FILLED WITH THE SENSE THAT SOME HUGE SWITCH HAD BEEN FLIPPED.

SPRING IS THE SEASON OF ENCOUNTERS.

THE DISSOCIATION OF HARUHI SUZUMIYA V : END

α—6

OKAY, EVERY-BODY!

THE STUDENT COUNCIL'S COMPLAIN-ING STOPPED US FROM DOING ANY REAL ADVER-TISING...

ASPIRING TO ENTER THE SOS BRIGADE TAKES ADMIRABLE COURAGE.

I KNEW THAT GUTSY FRESH-MEN WERE OUT THERE!

...BUT I KNEW!

BI (JAB)

BATSU (WHAM)

YOU'VE PROVEN YOURSELF SUPERIOR TO ALL OTHER FRESH-MEN!

ZAWA

IT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO COME OF YOUR OWN FREE WILL!

ZAWAA (MURMUR)

ALL BRIGADE MEMBERS MUST BE AT A CERTAIN LEVEL.

UFU FU...

BUT THAT ALONE IS NOT ENOUGH.

BOSO (WHISPER)

UNFORTUNATELY YOU FAILED TO PASS THE FIRST STAGE OF THE BRIGADE ENTRANCE TEST.

POLISH YOUR SKILLS AND TRY AGAIN LATER.

ZA (STEP)

IT'S NO EXAGGERATION TO SAY I THINK OF NOTHING ELSE.

AS THE CHIEF OF THE SOS BRIGADE, I HAVE A DUTY TO OVERLOAD THE WORLD WITH FUN.

HUH?

BAA (WHAM)

IF WE DON'T PROGRESS EVERY YEAR, WE'LL START TO DECLINE!

THUS, I CANNOT AFFORD TO COMPROMISE, NOT EVEN WITH NEW MEMBERS!

NEITHER I NOR THE SOS BRIGADE WILL FALL BY THE WAYSIDE.

AND THAT'S HOW...

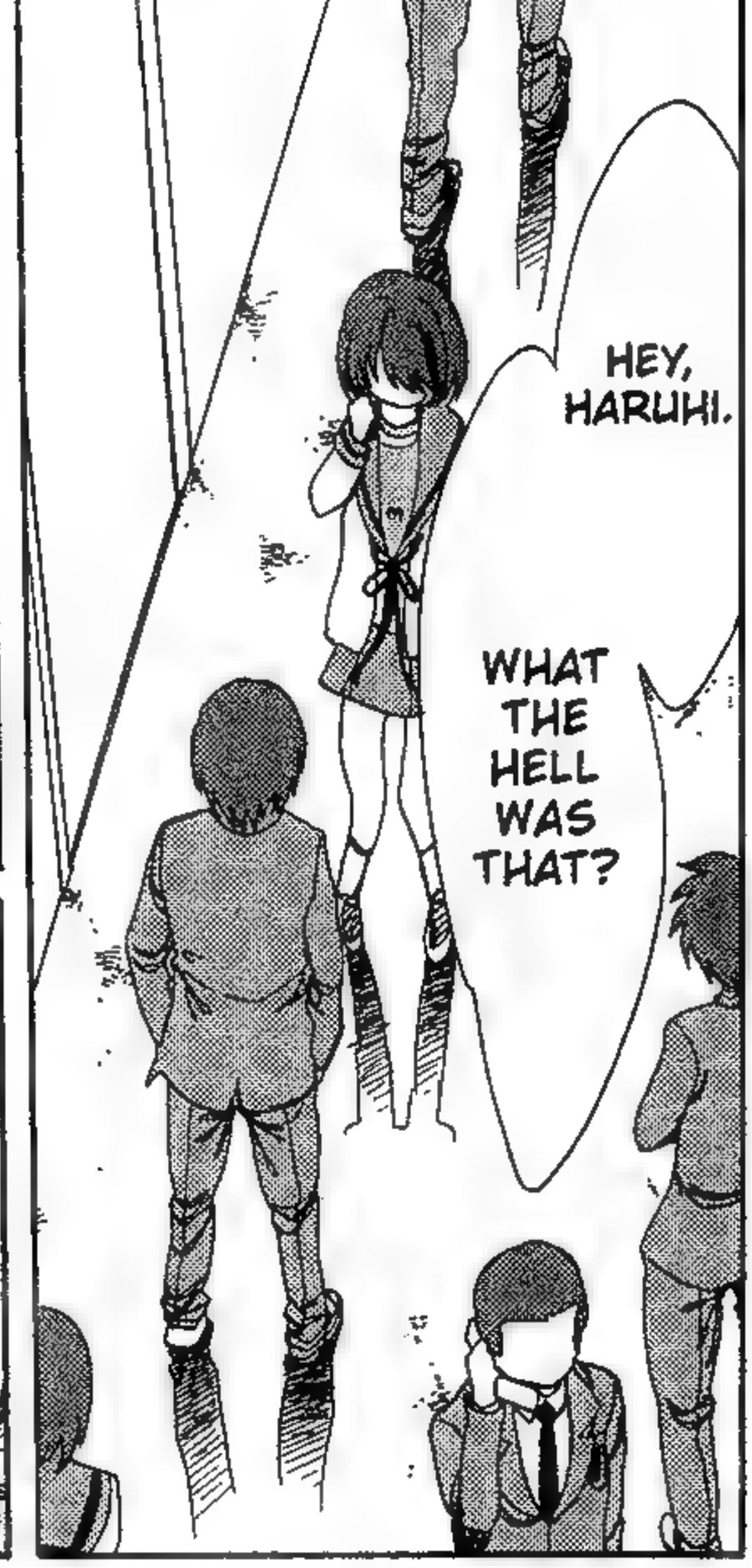
...THE SOS BRIGADE THWARTED THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S CUNNING PLAN.

BOARD: EVILDOER / WAY / MEMORIZE

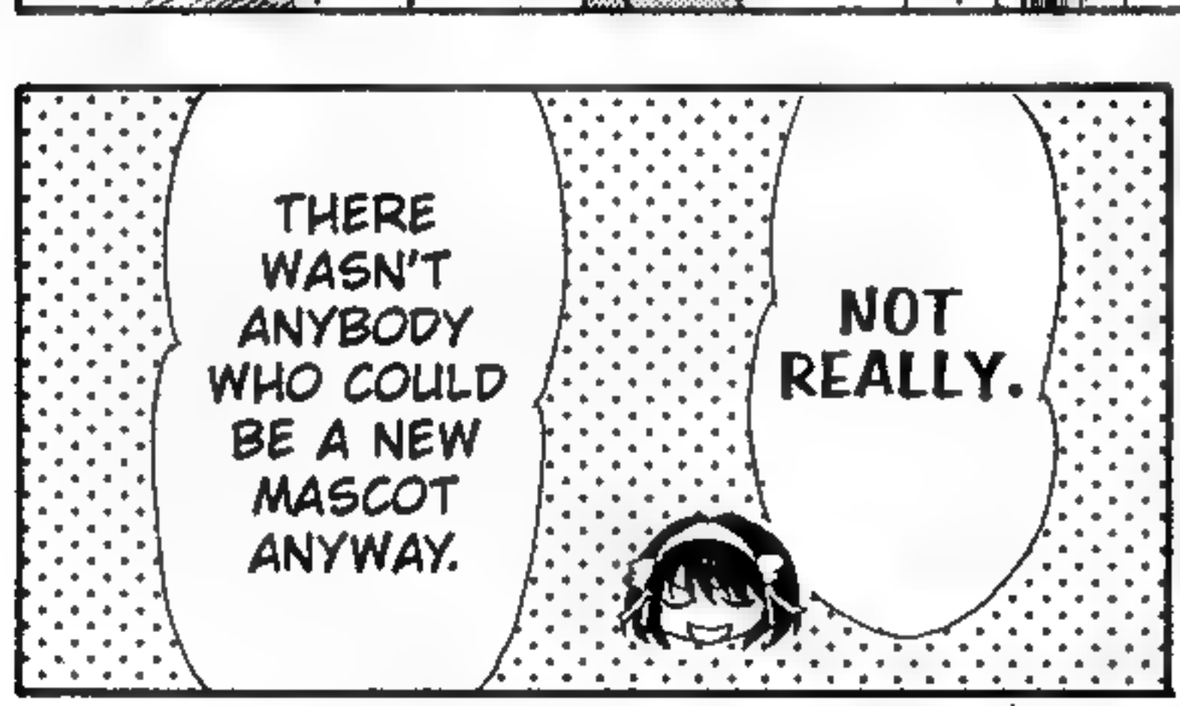
...NOR WILL WE EVER!

WE HAVEN'T SO FAR...

KATA カタ
KATA カタ
KATA カタ
KATA (TAP) カタ
WHAT'S THIS BRIGADE ENTRANCE TEST THING?
DON'T YOU FEEL BAD FOR THAT GUY?


HEY, HARUHI.
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?

WE DON'T NEED BRIGADE MEMBERS THAT GET DISCOURAGED SO EASILY.
ASKING A QUESTION LIKE THAT MEANS HE'S NOT READY.


THERE WASN'T ANYBODY WHO COULD BE A NEW MASCOT ANYWAY.
NOT REALLY.

SO ...
DID YOU SPOT ANYBODY WHO MEASURED UP?

... TOTALLY NEW, UNIQUE INDIVIDUALS...
I MEAN, LIKE...
BUT I THINK THERE MIGHT BE SOME WHO HAVE ENTIRELY DIFFERENT ATTRIBUTES.

SO I'M CREATING AN ENTRANCE TEST TO CORRECTLY IDENTIFY THEM.
IT'LL PROBABLY END UP A PROCESS OF ELIM-INATION!

I WANT PEOPLE WHO'LL BRING A BREATH OF FRESH AIR INTO THE BRIGADE.
PEOPLE WHOSE THINKING IS TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM MINE.

YEAH, YEAH.
I WAS WORKING ON IT LAST NIGHT AT HOME TOO.
WHAT I'M DOING NOW IS CREATING THE WRITTEN PORTION OF THE TEST.

Koi-zumi.
I just wanna ask— are any of those freshmen ...

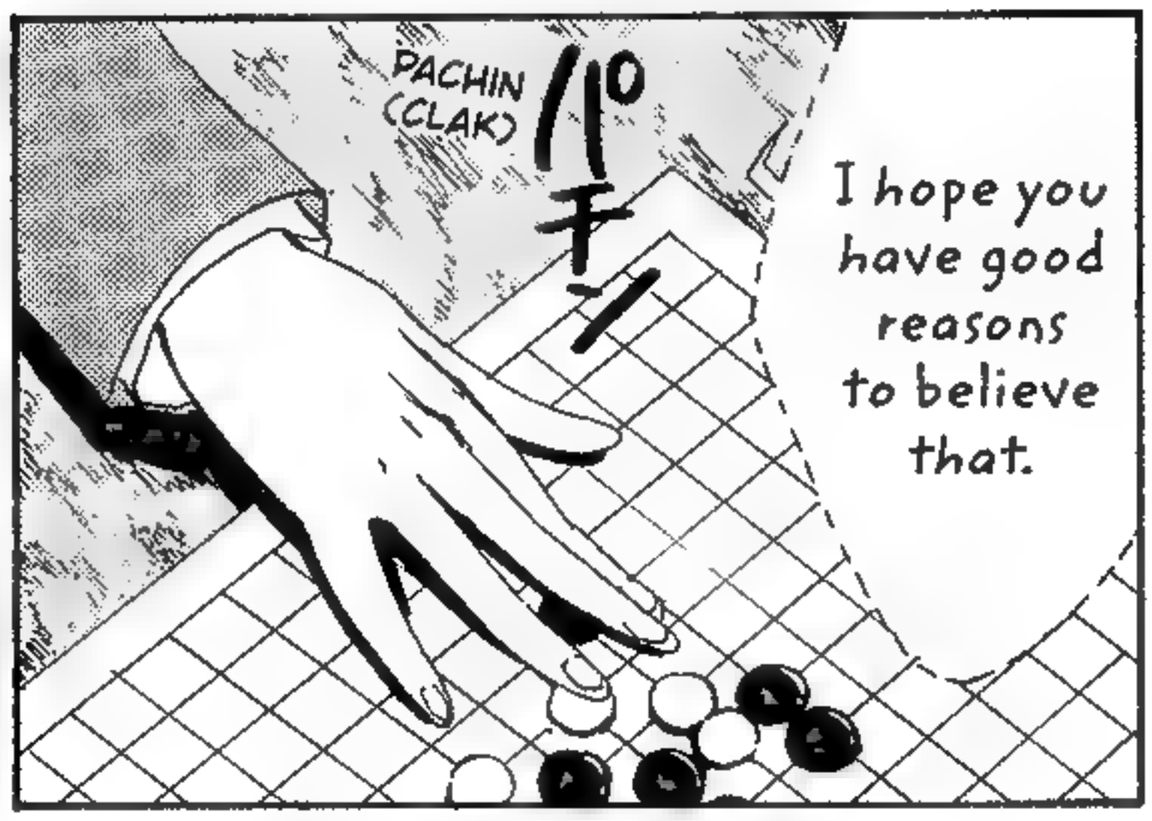
WELL, CONSIDERING HOW THEY'D BE TREATED ONCE THEY JOIN, GUESS THERE'S NO POINT BEING OVERLY NICE TO THEM NOW.
I WAS MORE WORRIED ABOUT SOME-THING ELSE...

At the very least, no espers, aliens, or time travelers.

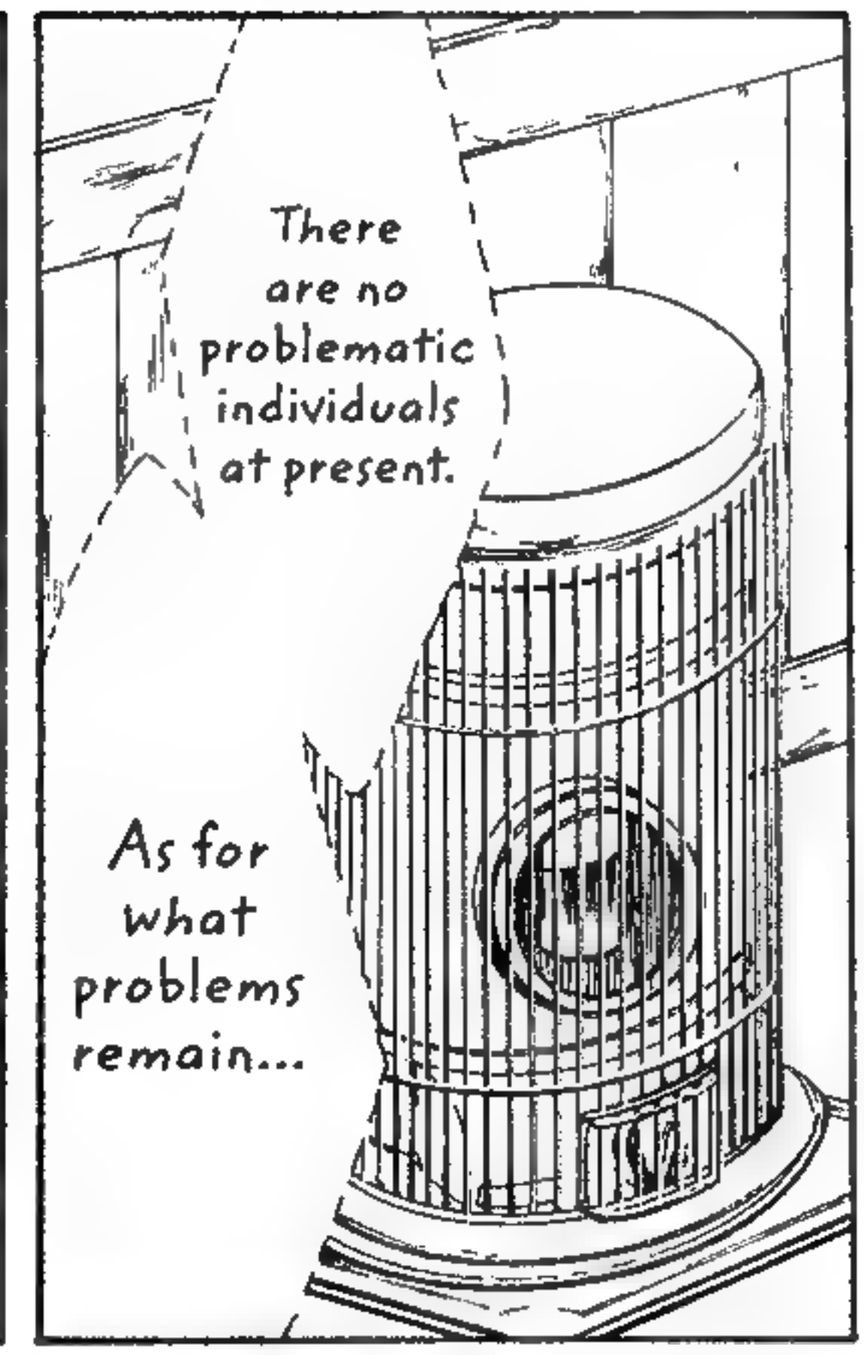
SU (SHF) すっ

You may rest assured.

There are no secret identities among them.



FUWAA
CYAWWND
ふわあ
She won't just let everybody in, so...
They will come from whomever Suzumiya-san admits as a member.


There are no problematic individuals at present.
As for what problems remain...

And how.
The question is who she will choose.

I can't help but feel bad for those poor, naively courageous freshmen.
It will be more than enough if even one makes it in.

IT WASN'T THAT I WISHED FOR CATASTROPHE TO STRIKE MY LIFE, I JUST...

OR IF A METEOR SUDDENLY FELL AND CREATED A DISASTER.

LIKE IF A MISSILE FROM SOME OTHER COUNTRY WERE TO SUDDENLY STRIKE

...I WOULD FIND MYSELF THINKING OF TRULY ODD THINGS

SOMETIMES, WHEN THINGS GOT TOO BORING...

β—5·6

...THAT'S WHY THEY'RE SO ENTER-TAINING.
ALL THOSE CRAZY EVENTS ARE JUST FICTION...

I'M NOT SURPRISED YOU'VE NEVER HEARD OF IT BEFORE.
I JUST NOW MADE IT UP.

NO MATTER HOW LONG YOU WAIT, ALIEN'S ARE NOT GOING TO ATTACK.
IN OTHER WORDS, REALITY IS BUILT UPON HARD-AND-FAST LAWS.

LOOK, KYON.
TAKE THIS WALL.
IF WE'RE GOING TO TALK ABOUT PROBABILITY, THEN SURE, NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE.

HOW DO YOU KNOW?
THE PROBABILITY OF A METEOR HITTING THE EARTH ISN'T ZERO, AFTER ALL.

PROBA-BILITY?
DID YOU SAY PROBA-BILITY?

BUT YOU'RE WRONG.

I CAN SEE YOU'RE ABOUT TO SAY THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

SAY YOU CHARGED RIGHT INTO IT.

THERE'S A POSSIBILITY YOU COULD PASS RIGHT THROUGH IT.

...DESPITE THE PRESENCE OF AN INSULATOR THAT SHOULD NEVER LET AN ELECTRON PASS THROUGH IT...

AT THE QUANTUM LEVEL...

IT'S CALLED THE TUNNELING EFFECT.

...IT HAPPENS THAT ELECTRONS SOMETIMES DO PASS THROUGH SUCH OBJECTS AND APPEAR IN A DIFFERENT PLACE.

UH...

WHAT WERE WE TALKING ABOUT AGAIN?

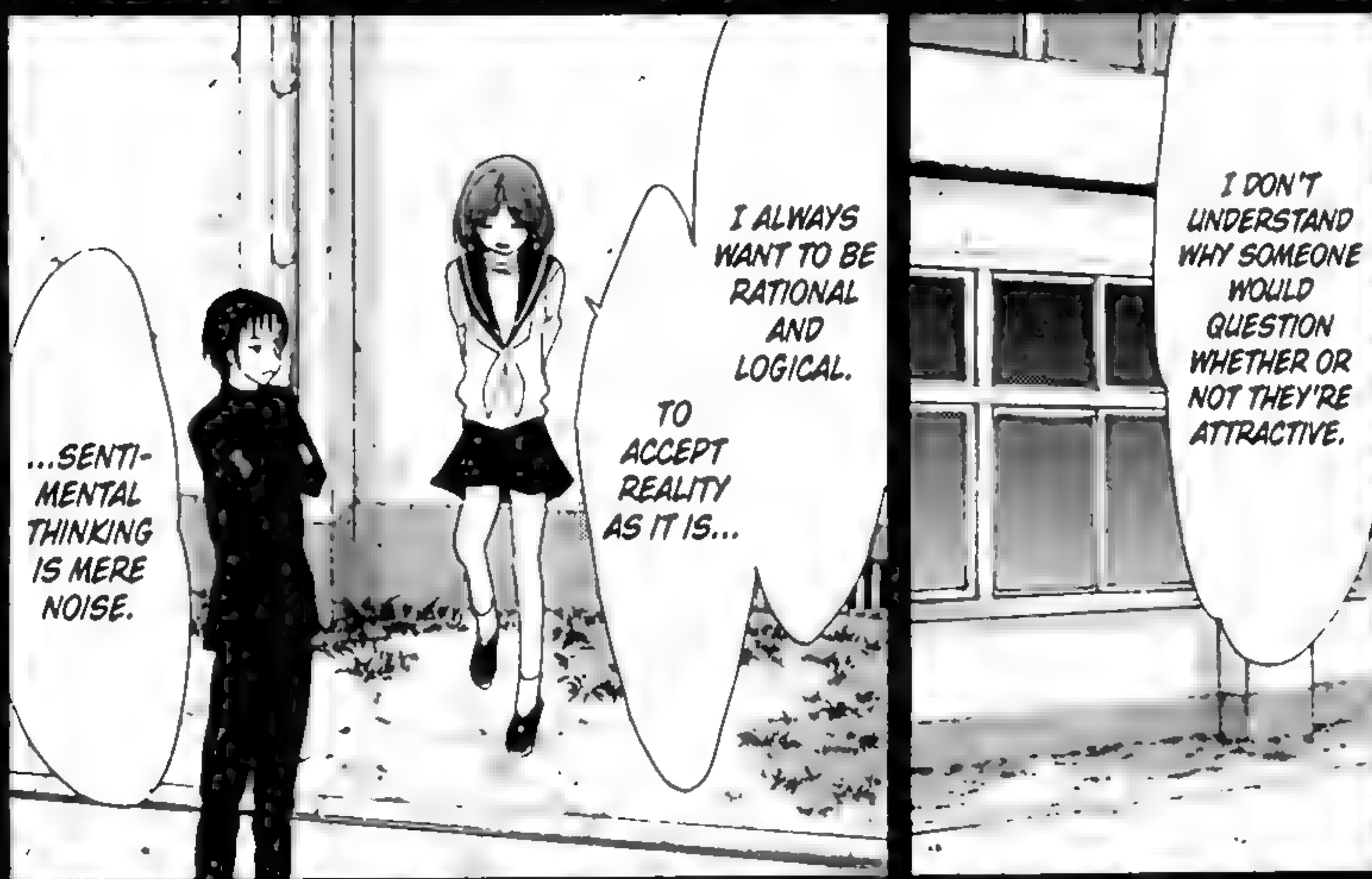
OF COURSE, THE ODDS ARE SO LOW THAT IF YOU TRIED TO DO IT ONCE EVERY SECOND, YOU'D STILL NEVER DO IT IN FIFTEEN BILLION YEARS.

YOUR BODY IS MADE UP OF PARTICLES, AND THE PROBABILITY THAT THEY COULD PASS THROUGH THE WALL IS NOT ZERO.

THESE ARE MY MEMORIES FROM A CERTAIN DAY, DURING MY LAST YEAR IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.

IF YOU THINK THIS DOESN'T MATTER, LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT OUR OTHER CONVER-SATIONS ...

WE TALKED LIKE THIS ALL THE TIME.



THERE WAS A PERSON A LONG TIME AGO WHO SAID SO.

IT WAS A VERY EVOCATIVE PHRASE, SO I REMEMBER IT EVEN NOW.

PARTICULARLY FEELINGS OF LOVE, WHICH ARE PRACTICALLY A KIND OF MENTAL ILLNESS.

...THAT'S NOT LOVE.

SOME OF THEM CERTAINLY SEEM TO BE AFFECTIONATE TO THEIR CHILDREN, BUT...

JUST LOOK AT WILD ANIMALS.

HEH.

SO WHAT IS IT, THEN?

KYON.

KYON?

JUST INSTINCT.

IT'S TIME FOR LUNCH.

HOW LONG ARE YOU GONNA SLEEP?

SHE WENT RUNNING OFF SOME-WHERE, AS USUAL.

I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHERE SHE'S HEADED MYSELF.

I'M SUR-PRISED NOBODY NUDGED YOU.

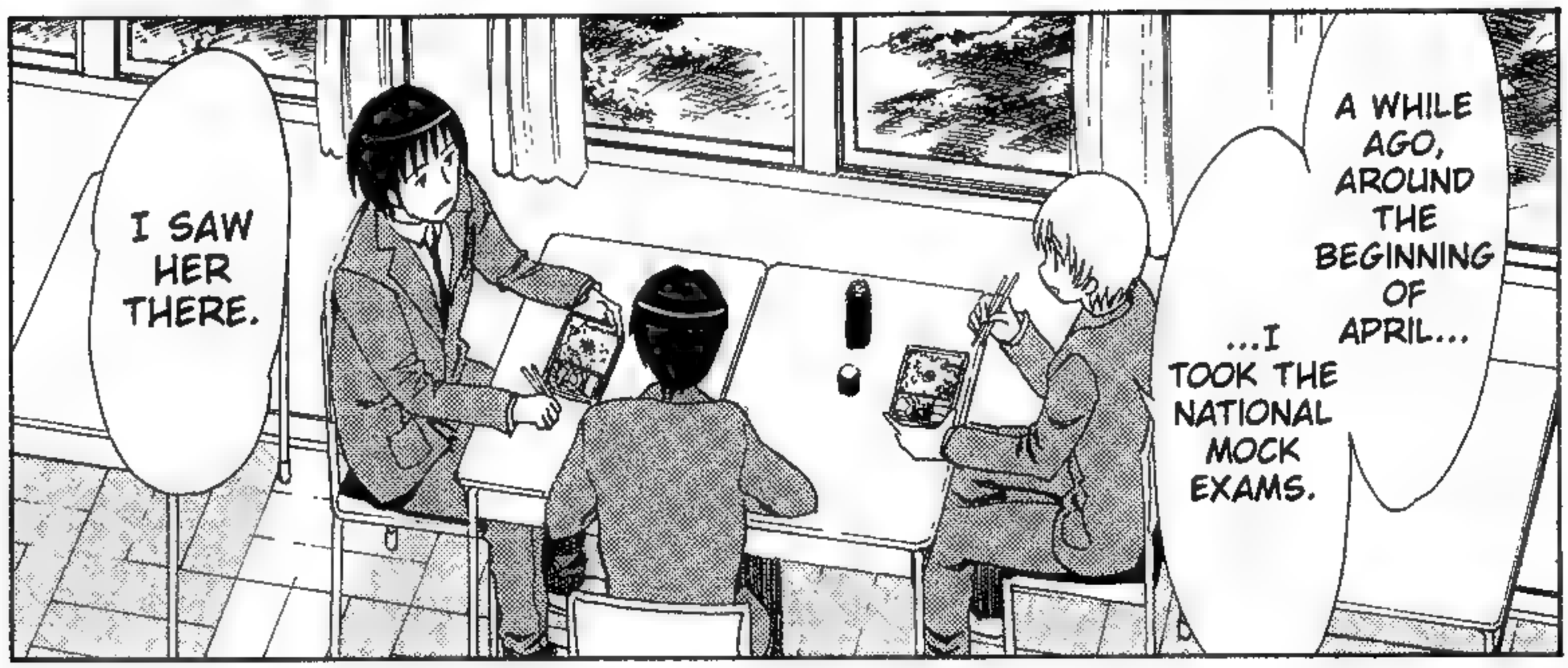
WHERE IS SHE?

YOU GUYS SURE ARE ON THE SAME WAVE-LENGTH.

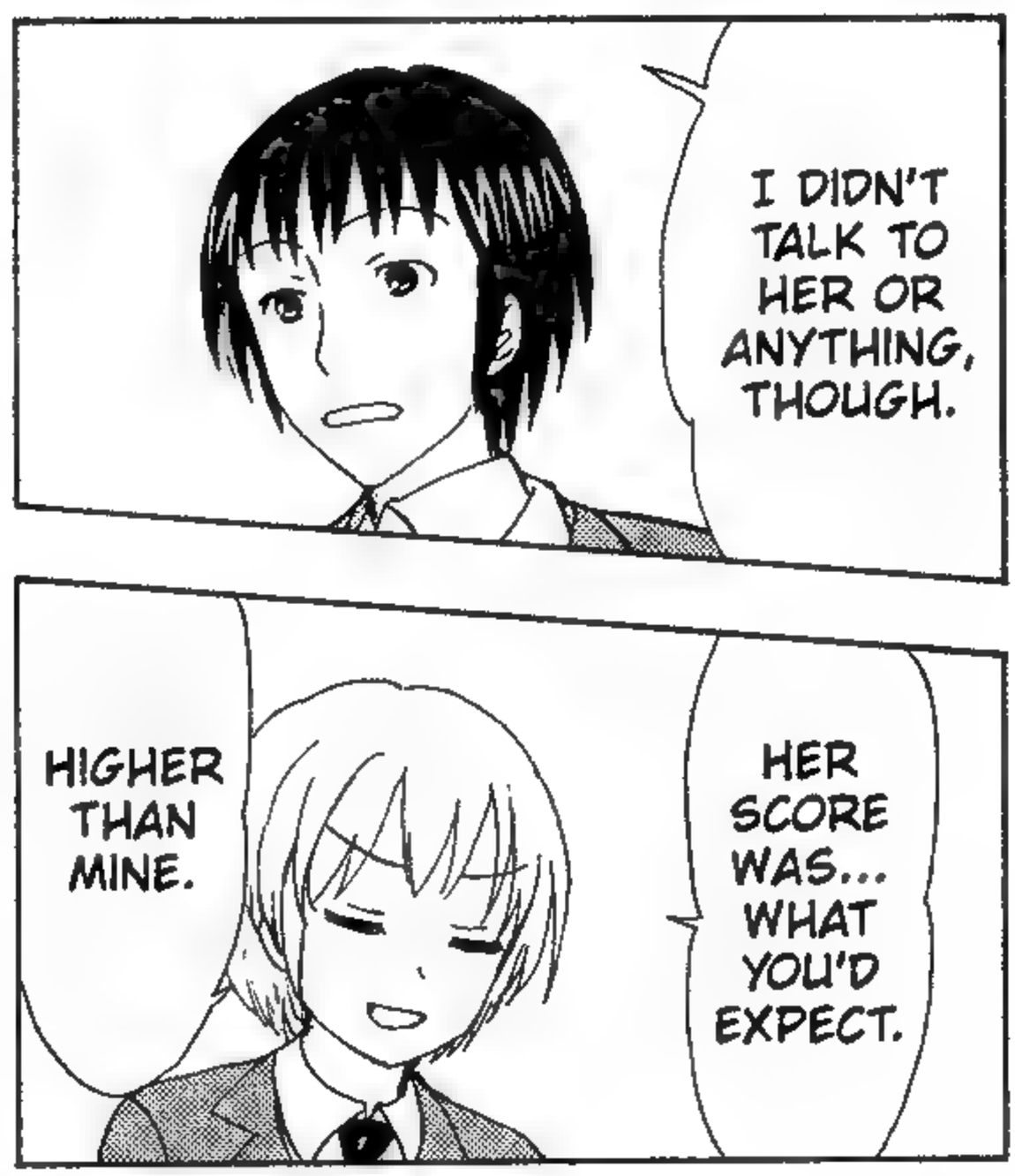
YOU AND SUZUMIYA-SAN EVEN DOZE OFF AT THE SAME TIME.

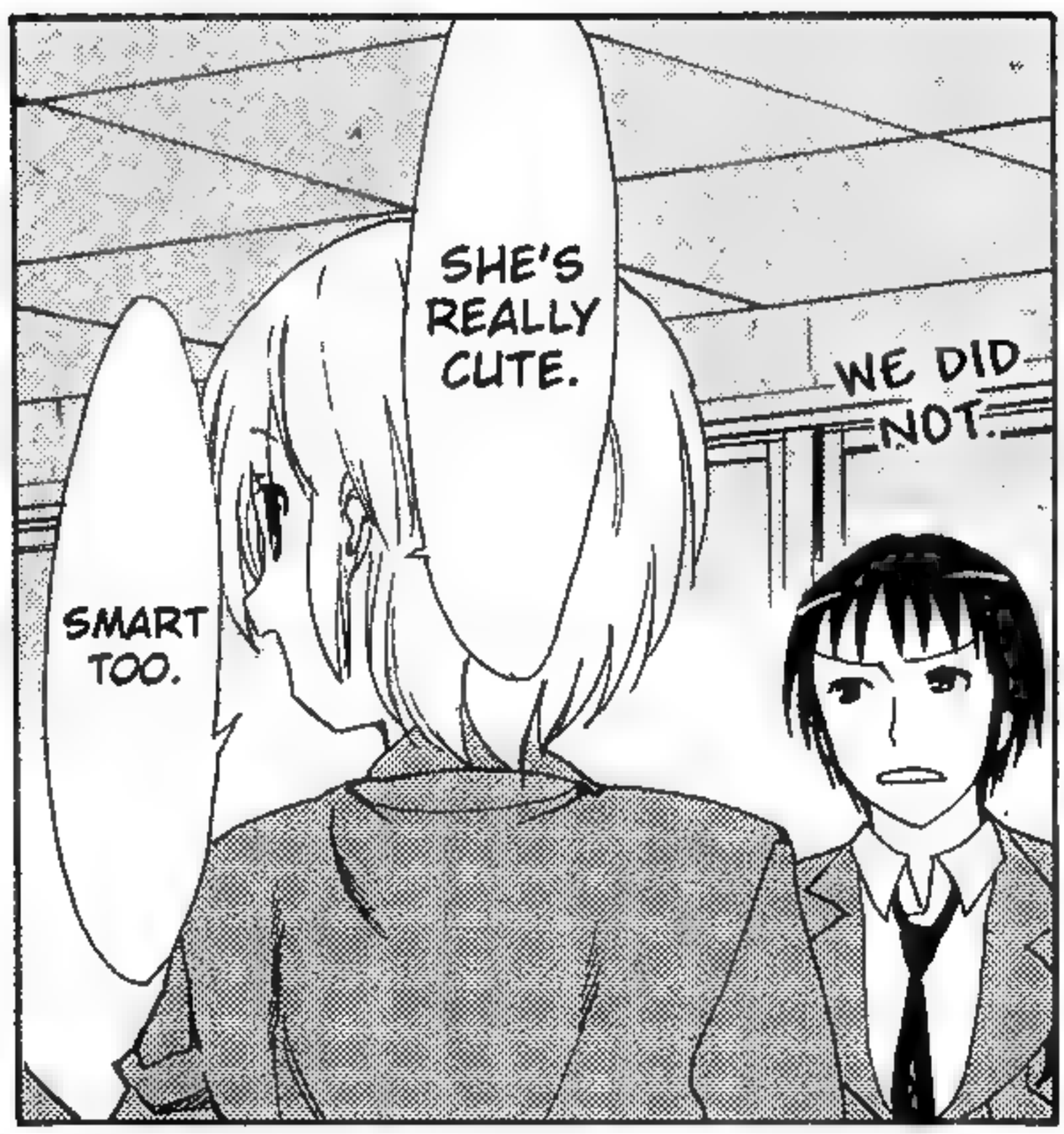
HAVE YOU SEEN SASAKI-SAN RECENTLY?

HEY, KYON, CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?
WHAT?


A WHILE AGO, AROUND THE BEGINNING OF APRIL...
...I TOOK THE NATIONAL MOCK EXAMS.
I SAW HER THERE.

AND I STARTED THINKING.
NEXT TIME, I'D BEAT HER!
SHE COULD BE MY TEMPORARY RIVAL.


I DIDN'T TALK TO HER OR ANYTHING, THOUGH.
HIGHER THAN MINE.
HER SCORE WAS... WHAT YOU'D EXPECT.


SHE'S REALLY CUTE.
SMART TOO.
WE DID NOT.

SASAKI, EH?
YOU MEAN THAT GIRL THAT GOT ALONG SO WELL WITH KYON?

SASAKI SAID YOU WERE WEIRD TOO.
HOW APPRO-PRIATE.

BUT IT WAS LIKE SHE WAS DOING IT ON PURPOSE.
A LITTLE STRANGE, HON-ESTLY.

IT'S LIKE SHE IS VERY CARE-FUL NOT TO GO PAST ITS EDGES.
I'M NOT VERY SELF-AWARE, BUT SHE'S DIFFERENT.
BUT SHE KNOWS IT AND FITS HERSELF INTO THAT FRAME.

DID SHE?
I THINK THERE'S A DIF-FERENCE IN NUANCE, THOUGH.

I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF WEIRD CHICKS.
SHE'S OUTTA MY EXPERTISE, THAT'S FOR SURE.

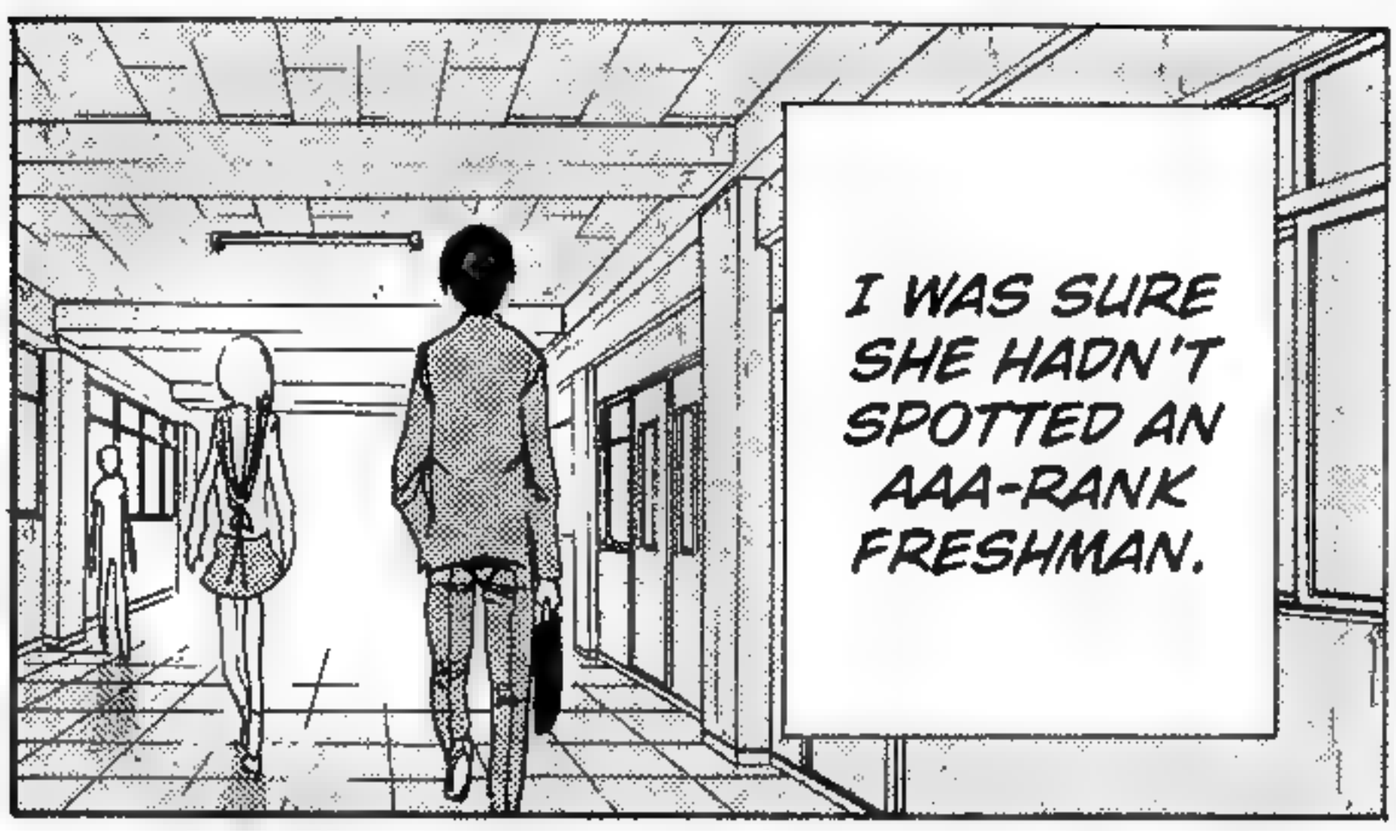
IS SHE STILL LIKE THAT?
I WORRY SHE'S GOING TO GET TIRED OF IT.

AT THIS POINT MY BEST BET IS TO AIM FOR THE FRESHMEN ...
...WHY DON'T I HAVE ANY CONNECTIONS WITH NORMAL, CUTE GIRLS?
LOOK...

IT WASN'T LIKE THERE WERE GOING TO BE ANY NEW SOS BRIGADE APPLICANTS.
AT THE MOMENT, THEY WERE OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF MY INTEREST.
THE FRESHMEN, HUH?

SURE.
I'VE GOT TO STOP BY SOME-WHERE.
TA (DASH)

KYON.
WILL YOU GO ON AHEAD?


I WAS SURE SHE HADN'T SPOTTED AN AAA-RANK FRESHMAN.

WELL, THAT HAP-PENED SOME-TIMES.
SHE WASN'T THERE.

...NA-GATO?

YEAH, NO WAY...
GACHA (CLACK)

STRANGE THAT NO ONE ELSE IS HERE YET, ISN'T IT?

HELLO THERE.

AH, KYON-KUN!

TA (TAP)

THIS WAS MY CHANCE TO ASK.

ABOUT THAT TIME TRAVELER WE MET IN FEBRUARY ...

PATAN (SHUT)

ASAHINA-SAN.

HE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE OBSERVING HARUHI. STILL...

WHAT IS HE UP TO?

YES, I REMEM-BER.

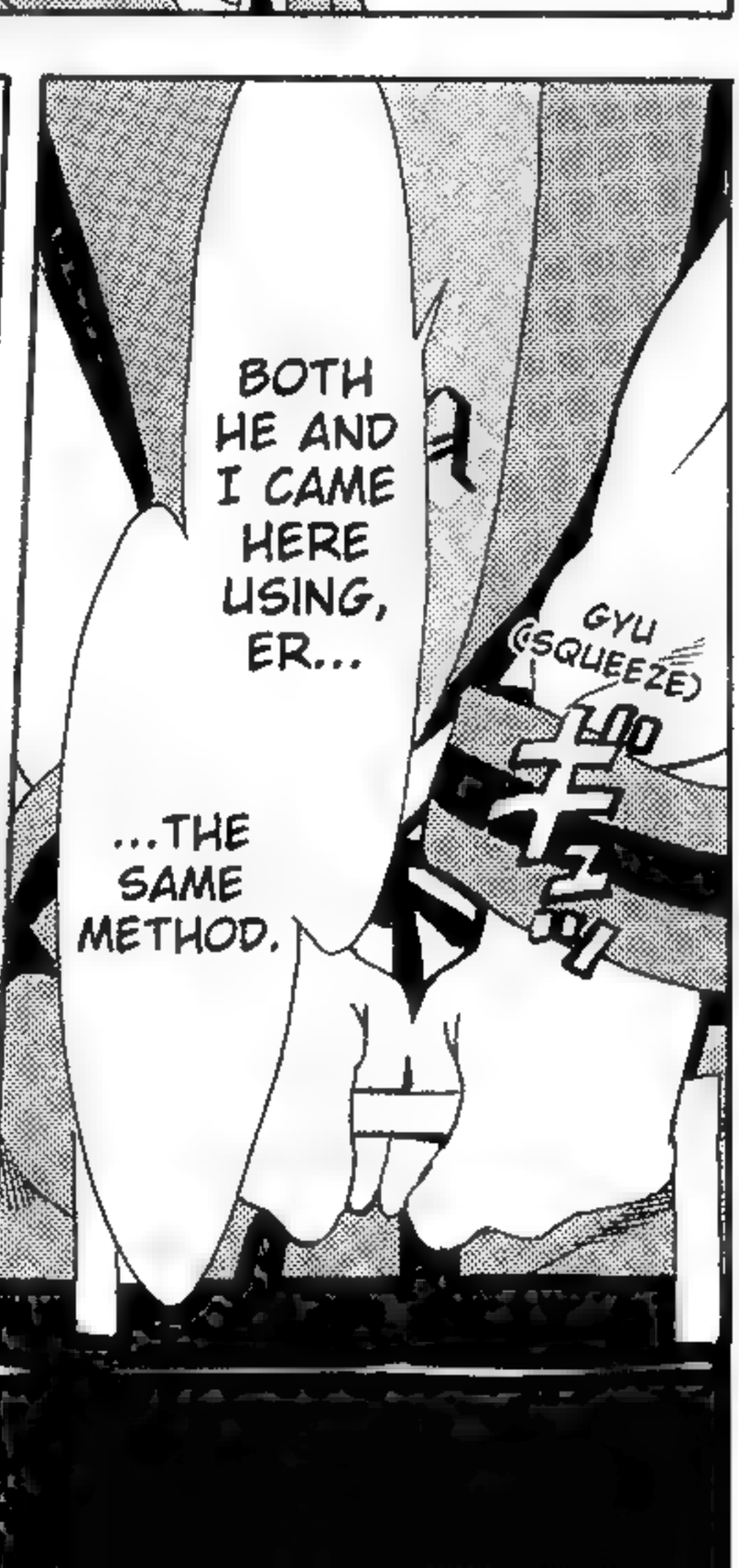
I HAVEN'T BEEN GIVEN ANY ORDERS, SO...
BUT I DON'T THINK HE CAME HERE TO DO ANYTHING BAD.

HIS GOAL IS... ACTUALLY, I WASN'T TOLD WHAT IT WAS.

IT'S DEFINITELY CON-NECTED.

...COME FROM A TIME THAT'S CONNECTED TO OURS?
DID HE...

TIME TRAVEL USING THE TIME PLANE DESTROID DEVICE, IT...
...IT LEAVES TRACES IN THE TIME PLANE, SO...
HA... (GASP)


BOTH HE AND I CAME HERE USING, ER...
...THE SAME METHOD.
GYU (SQUEEZE)

IT MUST'VE DROPPED OFF THE NO-SAY LIST.

IT WAS A WORD I AL-READY KNEW.

IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE CLAS-SIFIED!

HOW... DID I SAY THAT?

PAKU (FLAP) ぱくぱく PAKU

WELL, IT...

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

THAT SOUNDS PRETTY DANGER-OUS.

I'M SORRY.

THAT'S ALL I CAN SAY.

I GUESS NOT ALL THE RESTRIC-TIONS HAVE BEEN LIFTED.

IT'S NO GOOD. I CAN'T SAY IT.

BUT I'LL TELL YOU MORE SOON— REALLY.

THE FACT THAT THE RESTRICTIONS WERE LIFTED EVEN A LITTLE IS PROOF THAT I'VE MANAGED TO ACCOMPLISH SOMETHING SO FAR.

SO, SOON I'M SURE...

I WANTED THINGS TO STAY LIKE THIS AS LONG AS POSSIBLE.

AND IT WASN'T PURELY SELF-INTEREST THAT MADE ME WISH FOR THAT.

THE CLOSER SHE GOT TO BECOMING ASAHINA THE ELDER...

...THE NEARER OUR TIME OF PARTING DREW.

I BELIEVE YOU, ASAHINA-SAN.

I KNOW ALL YOUR HARD WORK WILL BE REWARDED.

FLYER: NOTICE OF BRIGADE ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, FRESHMEN ONLY!

ARMBAND: CHIEF

...THERE ARE A FEW PEOPLE CRAZY ENOUGH TO ACTUALLY WANT TO JOIN THE SOS BRIGADE.
I JUST HOPE ...

FRESH-MEN...
NEW MEM-BERS...
WHO'S EVEN LOOKING AT THIS?

NOPE.
TA (BLUNT)
LEMME SEE.

OTHERWISE THE EXAM QUESTIONS I MADE WILL GO TO WASTE.
GYU (GRAB)
YES, HOPE-FULLY A FEW WILL SHOW UP.

IF YOU WANT TO SEE, YOU'LL NEED TO RISE IN THE RANKS!
PI (FLICK)
THIS IS A BRIGADE SECRET!
IT'S NOT FOR THE EYES OF UNDER-LINGS LIKE YOU.
SECRET, MY FOOT.

IT WAS QUITE PEACE-FUL—PEACE-FUL?

WAIT.

KOI-ZUMI AND I WERE PLAY-ING A GAME.

ASA-HINA-SAN WAS READ-ING A BOOK ON JAPA-NESE TEA.

HARUHI WAS AT THE COM-PUTER.

WHERE'S YUKI?

COME TO THINK OF IT...

I'LL TRY CALLING HER.
CHA (FLIP)
チャッ
NAGATO HADN'T COME TO THE CLUB-ROOM— THAT WAS ALL.
WHAT WAS THIS TER-RIBLE FEEL-ING?

NO WAY, REALLY?
HUH?
WHERE ARE YOU TODAY?
HEY, YUKI.
RRRRRR
チャッ
CHA (CLICK)
ARMBAND: CHIEF
DID YOU SEE A DOC-TOR?
YOU DIDN'T, HUH?
WHAT ABOUT MEDI-CINE?
A FEVER? DO YOU HAVE A COLD?

PI (BIP)

GET BACK INTO BED AND LAY DOWN.

ENOUGH.

OF COURSE IT'S A BIG DEAL.

DUMMY ...

YOU'VE GOT TO CONTACT US WHEN THESE THINGS HAPPEN.

WE WERE SO WORRIED!

ARMBAND: CHIEF

WE SHOULD'VE NOTICED SOONER.

THIS ISN'T JUST A SMALL MIS-TAKE.

DID YOU KNOW THAT?

YUKI MISSED SCHOOL TODAY.

BA (WHAP)

NAGATO, WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY ANYTHING?

SOMEONE SHOULD'VE TOLD EITHER HARUHI OR ME.

たっ

TA (DASH)

MIKURU-CHAN, HURRY AND CHANGE.

IF THINGS ARE SO BAD THAT YOU'RE MISSING SCHOOL, WHY DIDN'T YOU—

YEAH.

HURRY!

NAGATO, WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?

KOI-ZUMI.
DID YOU KNOW NAGATO WAS MISSING SCHOOL?
I SWEAR THAT I DID NOT KNOW.
I'M SURE NAGATO-SAN HASN'T CONTRACTED AN ORDINARY COLD.
IT IS PROBABLY THE SAME SICKNESS SHE HAD BEFORE.
AND KUYOH—
...THE DOLL-LIKE HUMANOID INTERFACE OF THE HEAVENLY CANOPY DOMAIN.
THE PHANTOM MANSION IN THE BLIZZARD.
THE EPISODE THAT MADE ME HATE WINTER.

AND OF COURSE, THEIR FIRST TARGET IS NAGATO-SAN, THE SOS BRIGADE'S STRONGEST LINE OF DEFENSE.

THEY'VE RESTARTED THEIR INVASION.

AND UNFORTUNATELY, WE DON'T HAVE THE POWER TO OPPOSE AN ATTACK.

...ONLY WE HUMANS WILL BE LEFT.

IF THEY FORCE HER INTO INOPERABILITY...

...BUT HARUHI ...

AND I KNOW PERFECTLY WELL I'M TOTALLY POWERLESS.

THAT LEAVES HARUHI AND I AS THE ONLY REMAINING BRIGADE MEMBERS.

ばっ!
BA (WHAP)

ALL RIGHT, LET'S GO!

WE'RE GOING STRAIGHT TO YUKI'S PLACE!

THE DISSOCIATION OF HARUHI SUZUMIYA VI : END

THE MELANCHOLY OF HARUHI SUZUMIYA

α—7

THE SURPRISE OF HARUHI SUZUMIYA I
MAYBE THE SOS BRIGADE WAS RUBBING OFF ON ME.
LATELY THE WALK HOME FROM SCHOOL AFTER I PARTED WAYS WITH HARUHI AND THE OTHERS FELT SOMEHOW LONELY.
IT WAS MONDAY, THE FIRST WEEKDAY, AND NOTHING PARTICULARLY NOTABLE HAPPENED.
PERHAPS IT WAS SUNDAY'S LINGERING LETHARGY.
THE SPRING-TIME WALK TO SCHOOL WAS BRIGHTER THAN USUAL.
NOT THAT IT MATTERED.

THAT MIGHT'VE BEEN THANKS TO THE INNOCENCE OF THE NEW FRESHMEN WHO HAD VISITED THE CLUB AFTER SCHOOL.

OR MAYBE IT WAS AN EFFECT OF THE CLI-MATE.

The Surprise of Haruhi Suzumiya I

β—6:7

I DON'T THINK SO.
IF WE ACT IN HASTE, WE MAY PLAY RIGHT INTO THEIR HANDS.

BUT WHAT SHOULD I DO? WAS THIS IT?
WAS THIS THE TIME AND PLACE TO REVEAL MY JOKER, MY TRUMP CARD?

IF OUR ENEMY HAD ATTACKED SERIOUSLY, WE MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MOVE.
THERE HAVE BEEN NO REPORTS OF KYOKO TACHIBANA MAKING ANY CARELESS MOVES.

ALSO ...
...THIS MAY EVEN BE AN ADVAN-TAGEOUS POSITION.

WE MUST CONSIDER OUR REACTION CAREFULLY.

THIS IS A UNILATERAL MOVE BY THE DATA OVERMIND'S COUNTER-PART.

BY ANALOGY, NEITHER HAS THE TIME TRAVELER FACTION.

TIME IS OF THE ES-SENCE!

WHAT'RE YOU MUT-TERING ABOUT OVER THERE?

HEY, KYON!

BUT YOU...

TA (DASH)

ALL RIGHT, LET'S GO!

WE'RE GOING STRAIGHT TO YUKI'S PLACE!

THIS IS AN ADVAN-TAGEOUS POSI-TION?

WE DON'T EVEN KNOW...

HE'S GOTTA BE JOKING!

DIN DIN DON DON DIN (DING) DON (DONG)

AND DEPEND-ING ON HOW THAT TURNS OUT...

EVERY-BODY'S HERE TO CHECK IN ON YOU.

YUKI, IT'S ME.

...HOW TO MEASURE WHAT'S WRONG WITH NAGATO!

THOSE PAJAMAS AREN'T VERY ALLURING.
YUKI.
SHOULD YOU REALLY BE UP?

NU (LOOM)

GEEZ!
FORGET ABOUT OUR SLIP-PERS!
DID YOU EAT DINNER YET?

GOTO (CLUNK)

(CREAK)

KOKU (NOD)

YOU DO HAVE A BIT OF A FEVER.

DOES YOUR HEAD HURT?
YOU LIVE ALONE AND ALL.
YOU GOTTA EAT.

DO YOU HAVE AN ICE PACK ANY-WHERE?
I'LL BUY YOU ONE LATER.

SHE DIDN'T SEEM TO BE DEATHLY ILL, AT LEAST.
SO THAT WAS A RELIEF.

BUT FIRST, DIN-NER!
I'M GONNA BORROW YOUR KITCHEN AND FRIDGE, OKAY?

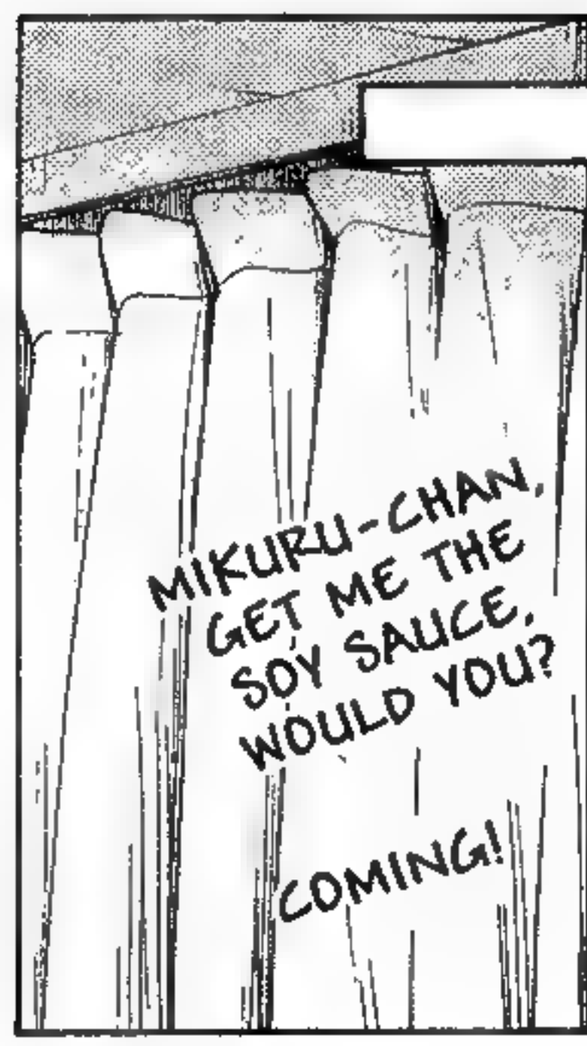
MIKURU-CHAN, YOU HELP ME!
GOT IT.
O. OKAY!
KOIZUMI, YOU'RE ON SHOPPING DUTY.

TA (TAP)
たっ
I'M GONNA MAKE MY SPECIAL RICE POR-RIDGE.
THAT'S THE BEST THING FOR COLDS!
TA TA たたっ

AND I KNEW FROM EXPE-RIENCE SHE WAS A GOOD COOK.
NOTHING BUT CANS!
THAT'S HARDLY A BALANCED DIET.
SHE MIGHT CLAIM IT'S HER DUTY AS CHIEF, BUT SHE EXCELLED AT THINGS THAT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE SOS BRIGADE.
EGGS, SPINACH, ONION...
HARUHI WAS PRETTY DE-PEND-ABLE IN SITUA-TIONS LIKE THIS.

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
DO YOU FEEL ABOUT AS BAD AS YOU LOOK?

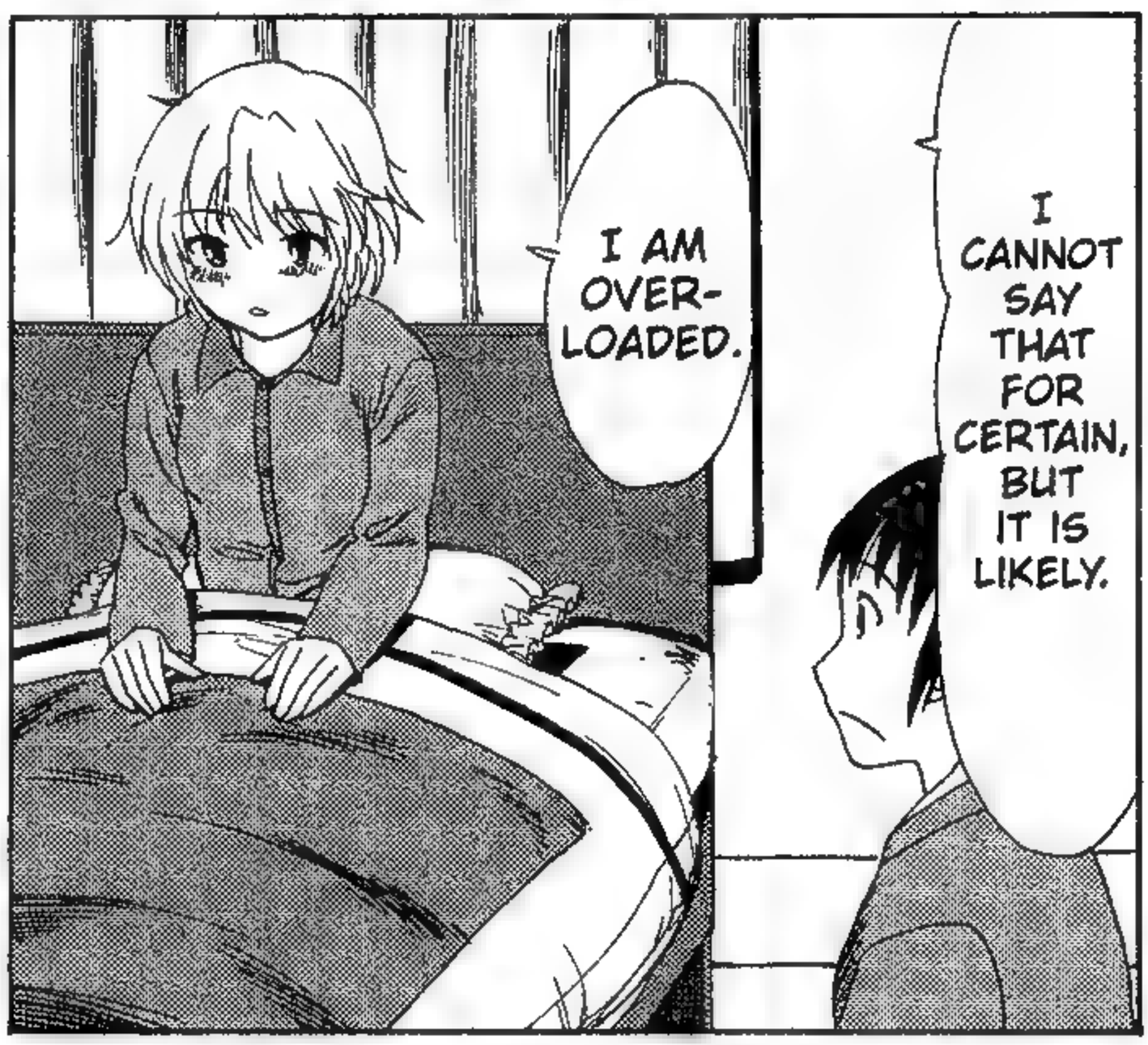
I HAVE TO ASK.


MIKURU-CHAN, GET ME THE SOY SAUCE, WOULD YOU?
COMING!

I'LL TAKE THAT TO MEAN I CAN KEEP TALKING.
IS THIS BECAUSE OF KUYOH?

.....

SINCE SATUR-DAY EVE-NING.


I AM OVER-LOADED.
I CANNOT SAY THAT FOR CERTAIN, BUT IT IS LIKELY.

YESTERDAY, SUNDAY.
SASAKI CALLED ME OUT FOR THAT MEETING.
NOW THAT I THOUGHT ABOUT IT, IT WAS STRANGE.
RIGHT WHEN I'D GOTTEN THAT PHONE CALL FROM SASAKI IN THE BATH?
EMIRI KIMIDORI-SAN.
AND THERE'D BEEN A SURPRISE APPEARANCE.
WORKING A PART-TIME JOB AT THE CAFÉ?
THAT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN A COINCI-DENCE.
AN INTERFACE FROM THE DATA OVERMIND UNLIKE EITHER NAGATO OR ASAKURA.

HOW STUPID COULD I BE?

WHY DIDN'T I REALIZE IT AT THE TIME?

AND THAT HAD ORIGINALLY BEEN NAGATO'S JOB.

SHE'D BEEN THERE TO OBSERVE KUYOH.

HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

...NAGATO.

HEY...

ぽすん POSUN (FWUMP)

ズラ FURA (SWAY)

THE DATA OVER-MIND WILL...

I CANNOT RECOVER FROM MY CURRENT STATE OF MY OWN WILL...

SO TO BE CLEAR ...

...THIS WAS NOT A NORMAL SICK-NESS.

THIS WAS AN INFORMATION ATTACK FROM THE HEAVENLY CANOPY DOMAIN.

NO DOCTOR COULD CURE THIS.

I AM FINE.

WORDS ARE DIFFICULT.

WORDS ...

COULD WE FIX THIS IF WE TALK TO KUYOH?

IF AS AN INDIVIDUAL I HAD BEEN GIVEN SOCIAL CAPABIL-ITIES...

MY VERBAL COMMUNI-CATION FACILITY IS INSUFFICIENT.

I...

I AM NOT CURRENTLY ABLE TO CONDUCT DISCOURSE WITH ANOTHER ORGANIC INTERFACE.

...I WILL BE AS I AM.

UNTIL I... CEASE FUNCTIONING ...

I WAS NOT MADE THAT WAY.

THE POSSIBILITY OF MY GAINING TOOLS LIKE RYOUKO ASAKURA'S WAS NOT ZERO.

NAGATO ...

I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE TO SAY.

IT WAS AN OBVIOUS MISMATCH— HONESTLY, I COULDN'T EVEN IMAGINE IT.

IF NAGATO AND ASAKURA HAD BEEN SWITCHED...

.....
NOTHING.

WHAT SHOULD I DO ...?
...JUST TELL ME.
HOW CAN WE CURE YOU...?

HEY, KYON!
NOTHING? YOU CAN'T...

YOU SHOULD BE WORKING HARDEST OF ALL!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING WITH YUKI?
GET IN HERE AND HELP ME!

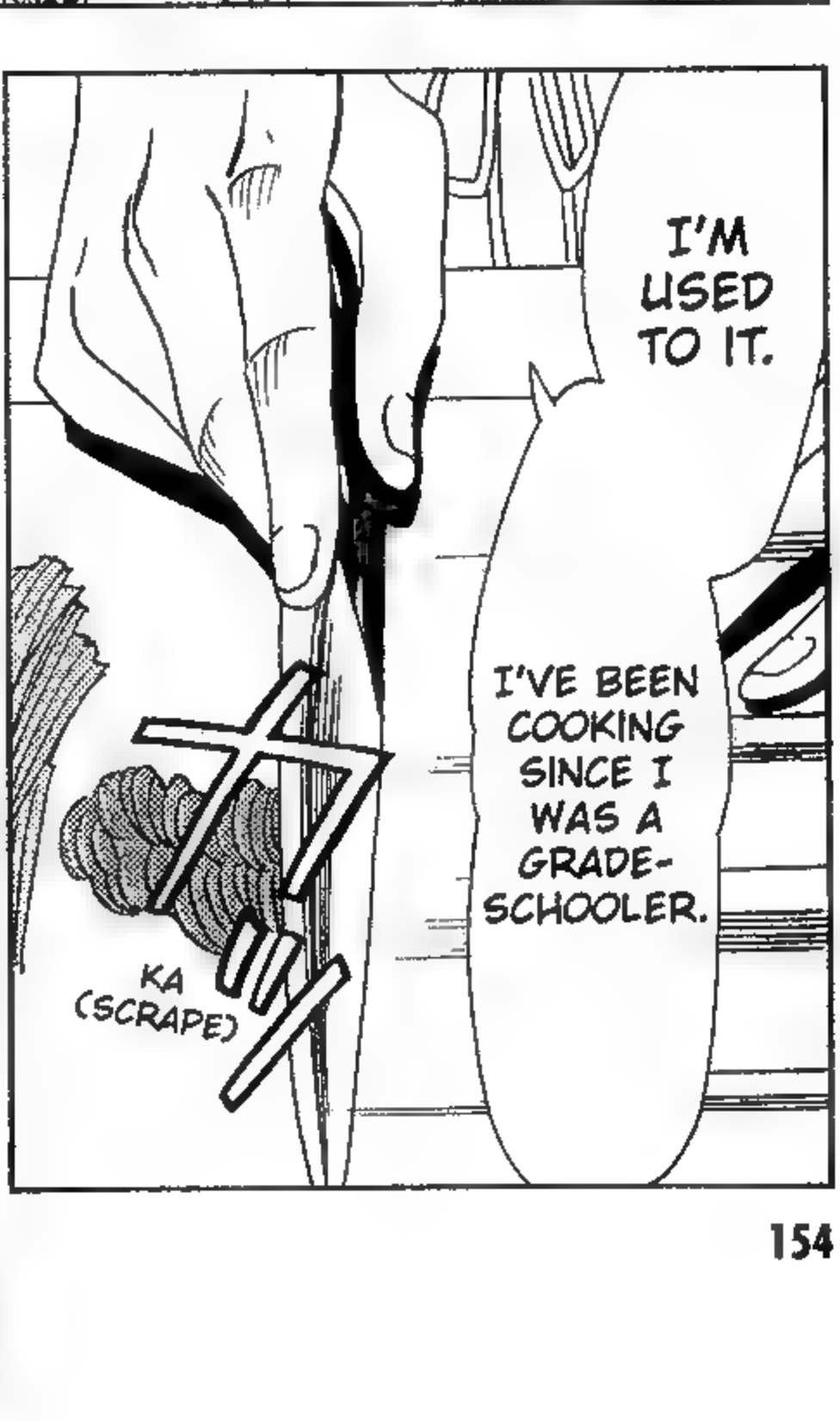
DOSA (THUD)
TON (CHOP)
TON
TON
SHU (SHK)
SHU
I KNOW A FINE DOCTOR.
HE'LL PRESCRIBE SOME EXCELLENT MEDICINE FOR HER.

I DOUBT SHE'LL NEED TO GO TO THE HOSPITAL.

SHUTA (SHTK)
TA
TA
TA
TA
THAT PUTS A PROFES-SIONAL HOME-MAKER TO SHAME.

THE KEY IS SPIRIT. SPIRIT!
TON
TON
TON
SHU
SHU
MEDICINE ONLY MAKES YOU THINK YOU'RE GETTING BETTER.

THERE'S SOME-THING WRONG WITH HER TONGUE.
I PROB-ABLY SHOULDN'T SAY THIS, BUT MOM...
...I MEAN, MY MOTHER DOESN'T HAVE THE BEST TASTE.


KA (SCRAPE)
I'M USED TO IT.
I'VE BEEN COOKING SINCE I WAS A GRADE-SCHOOLER.

AND THERE'S NO BETTER PRACTICE THAN PRACTICAL EXPERI-ENCE.
KO
KO
KO
IT WORKS OUT SINCE SHE'S BUSY WITH WORK, SO WE HELP EACH OTHER OUT.

KO (BLUB)
KO
KO
NOWADAYS I MAKE DINNER ABOUT HALF THE TIME.

HERE, TASTE THIS.
KO
KO
KURU (FWIP)
KO
KO
KO
IN COOKING OR ANYTHING ELSE, YOU'VE GOT TO APPLY YOURSELF TO IT EVERY DAY.

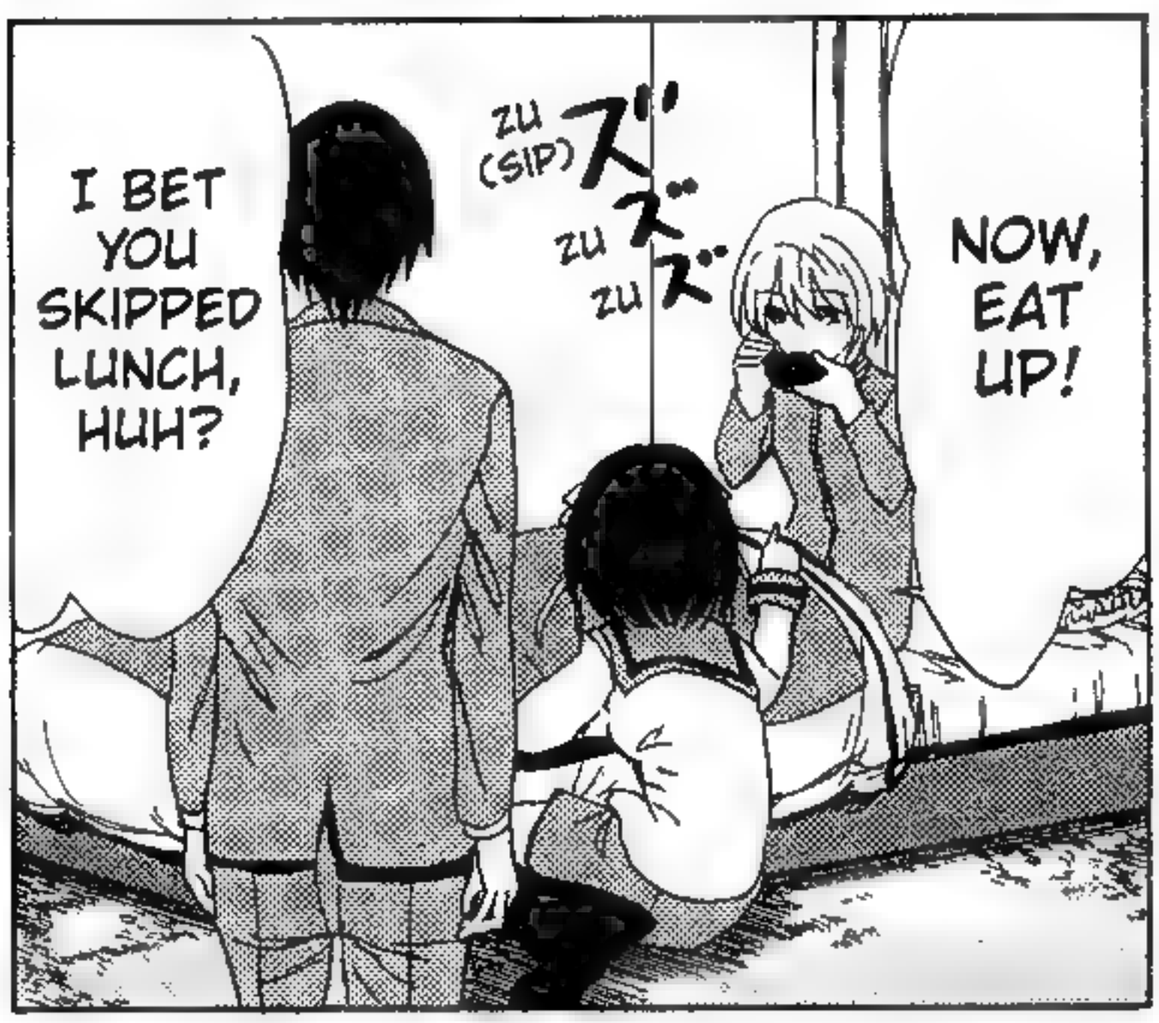
IT'S CHOCK-FULL OF VITA-MINS FROM A TO Z, AND GREAT FOR YOUR STAM-INA.
THIS IS MY SPECIAL ORIGINAL VEGETABLE SOUP!

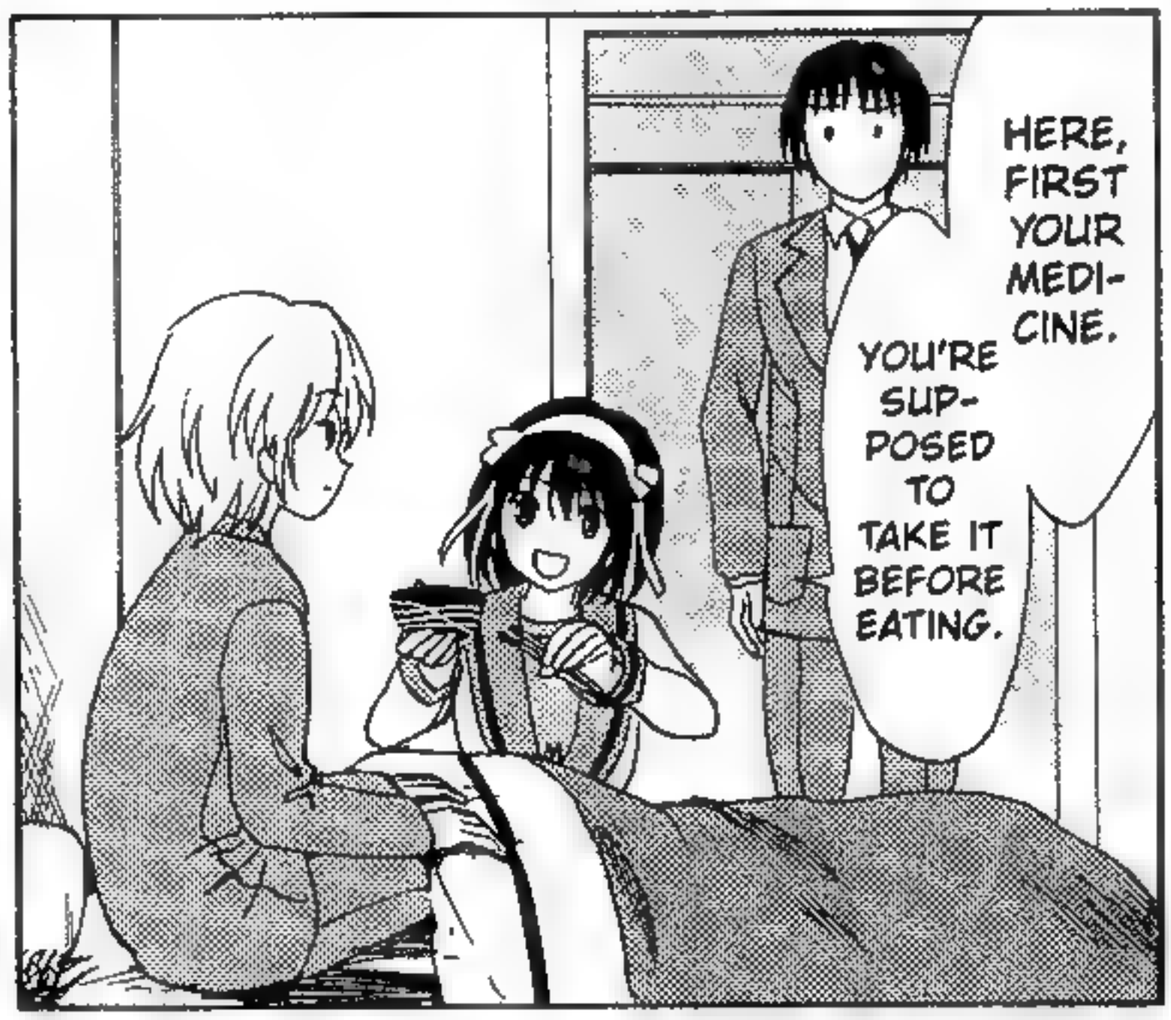
OKAY ...
AH!
IT'S DELI-CIOUS!

タッ TA (DASH)

ALL DONE, YUKI!

SORRY FOR THE WAIT!





C'MON, EAT UP!

...BUT IT SHOULD BE FLAVORFUL ENOUGH AS IT IS.

NOW THIS IS VEGE-TABLE SOUP.

I WOULD'VE LIKED TO SIMMER IT LONGER...

IF THIS HAD BEEN AN ORDINARY DISEASE, WE WOULD'VE BEEN ABLE TO CALL IT QUITS RIGHT THERE.

HARUHI'S ENERGY WAS DAZZLING.

KYON-KUN...?

GATAN (RAT-TLE)

SORRY.

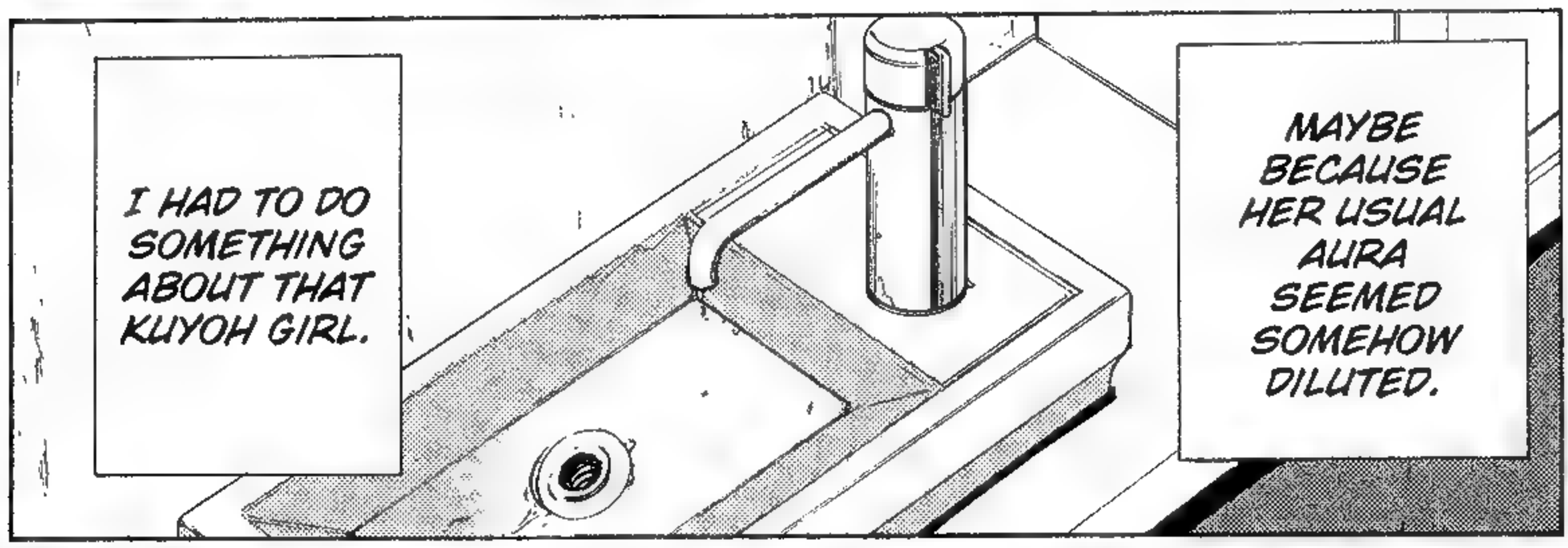
I'M GONNA GO USE THE BATHROOM.

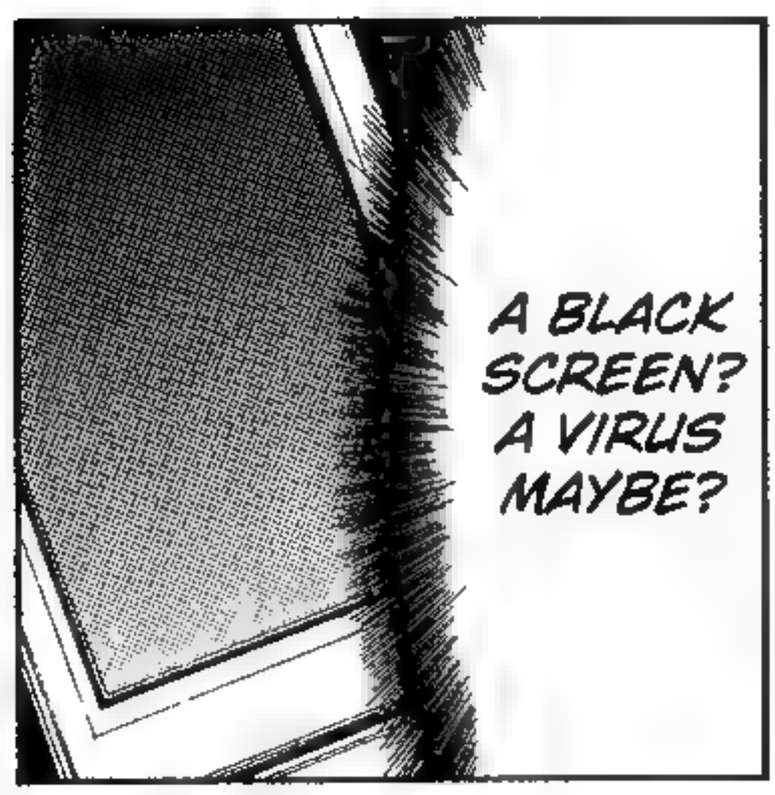
SU (RISE)

MAYBE I SHOULD MAKE SOME SAKE AND EGGS.

I JUST COULDN'T KEEP STANDING THERE SOMEHOW.

NAGATO WOULD EAT ANYTHING PUT IN FRONT OF HER.
WHETHER SHE NEEDED TO OR NOT.
SHE WAS PROBABLY JUST REPRESS-ING HER LACK OF APPETITE.


I HAD TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT KUYOH GIRL.
MAYBE BECAUSE HER USUAL AURA SEEMED SOMEHOW DILUTED.


A BLACK SCREEN? A VIRUS MAYBE?

HUH? A TEXT?
UGH.

WHA!
B
B
B
B

THIS IS JUST LIKE WHEN I WAS TRAPPED IN CLOSED SPACE.

NAGATO... NAGATO?

KATA KATA

Your fever is because of those Heavenly Canopy jerks, right?

KATA (TAP) KATA

yuki.n>
There is no need for worry.

yuki.n>
I will not allow them to harm you or Haruhi Suzumiya!

yuki.n>
Yes.

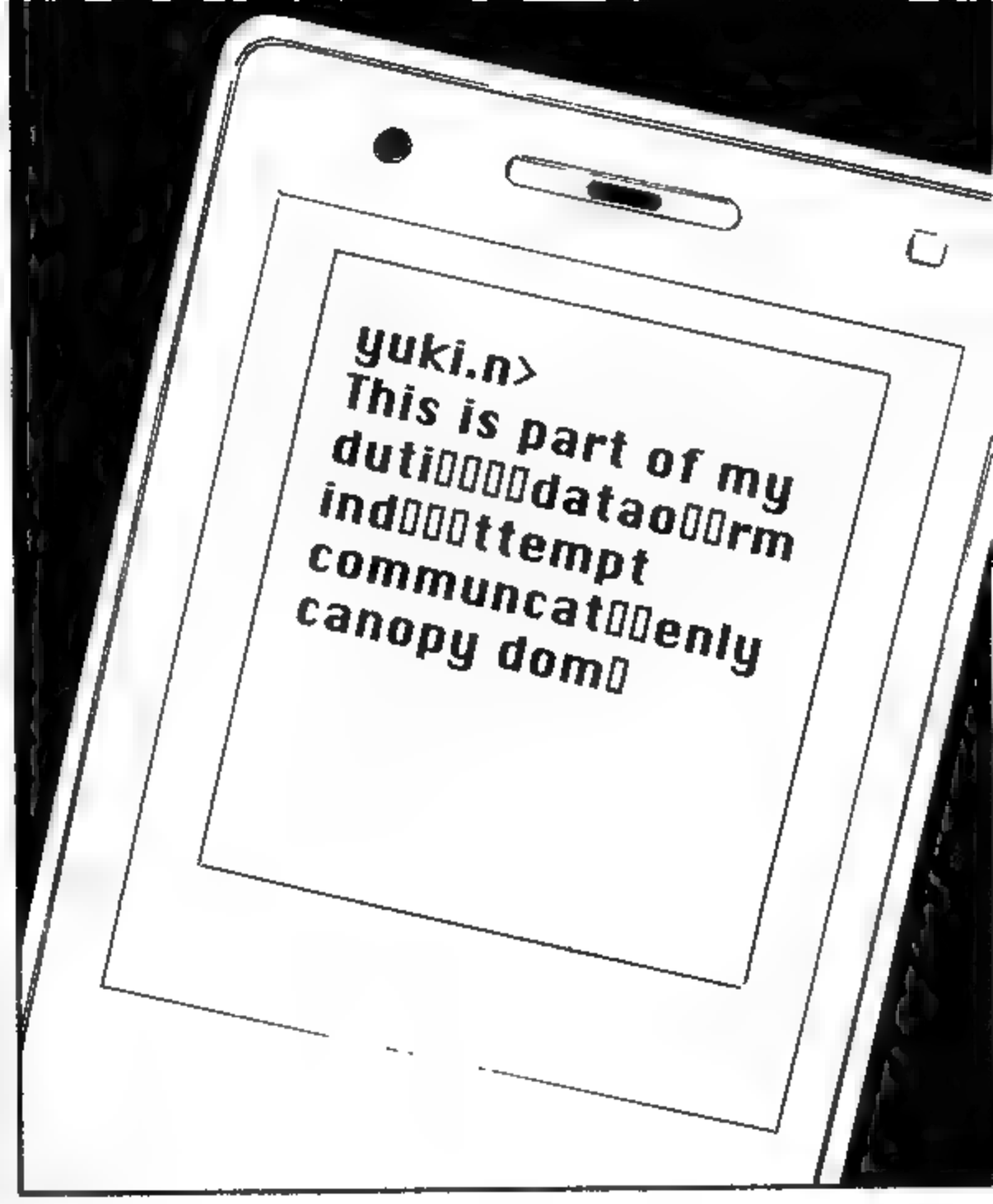
?

WHO CARES ABOUT ME OR HARUHI?

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S IN TROUBLE!

DAMN...

WHAT'S WRONG ...?


yuki.n>
This is part of my
duti□□□□data□□rm
ind□□□ttempt
communcat□□enly
canopy dom□

yuki.n>
my operaä,
□è□å□¯ã□®3
å¤§å¦ã€Œå
¯□è€³ã□«æ

yuki.n>
Going to sleep
for a bit.

IT'S TOTALLY UNHEARD OF FOR NAGATO TO SEND ME TOTAL NONSENSE.
IS SHE THAT SICK?

Kyon, quiet down!

Yuki just fell asleep.

NAGA-TO!!

She fell over as soon as she was done eating and went to sleep on the spot.

I'm sure she feels better.

It's times like this when living alone's no good.

You gotta have other people around.

No matter who it is, just having someone around is...

KYON!?
DA (DASH)
WHERE ARE YOU...
"DON'T WORRY," MY ASS!
THAT'S FREAKIN' IMPOSSIBLE!
THAT'S JUST NOT HOW HUMANS WORK!
DA
DA
DA
DA

I DON'T KNOW WHERE KUYOH IS, BUT I KNOW SHE'S WEARING A KOUYOUEN ACADEMY UNIFORM.
I'M PROBABLY BEING STUPID.
THAT'S MY ONLY CLUE...
DA
DA
...BUT THIS IS NO TIME TO JUST SIT AROUND.
DA
DA
I DON'T CARE IF THE SECURITY GUARD TRIES TO STOP ME.
I'LL BREAK INTO THE STAFF ROOM IF I HAVE TO...
DA
DA

HAAH! HAAH!

KAN

SOMEHOW, I CAME TO THAT PLACE.

KAN

NEARLY A YEAR EARLIER, I'D HEARD A LONG MONOLOGUE FROM HARUHI RIGHT THERE.

KAN

KAN (CLANG)

KAN

KAN

HA (GASP)

GOO (WHOOSH)

IT WAS LIKE... NO...
WHY WAS SHE HERE?
SHE WAS WAITING FOR ME.
THIS WAS NO COINCI-DENCE.

WHAT DID YOU DO TO NAGA-TO?

I WANTED TO LEARN ABOUT HUMANS ...

... NO ...

I DON'T MIND ...

WHAT WAS SHE SAYING!?

WHAT THE...?

IT WAS AN EMERGENCY.

NONE OF IT ADDED UP.

WHAT WAS THIS?

MY VISION... GOING DARK...

NO, DON'T LOOK...

IF I'M TO TURN HIM OVER TO YOU, I'D RATHER DO THIS.
AFTER ALL, THIS HUMAN IS MY PREY.
I WON'T ALLOW YOU TO APPROACH ANY CLOSER.
STOP RIGHT THERE.
SHARIN (SHING)

IT DOESN'T MATTER TO ME EITHER WAY.
THAT'S RIGHT.
YOU'RE... ASA-KURA!
WHO ELSE WOULD I BE?

SHE CAN'T ACT, SO I'M UP NEXT. THAT'S HOW THINGS WORK.

AFTER ALL, I'M NAGATO-SAN'S BACKUP.

WHAT KIND OF ABSURD DILEMMA WAS THIS...!?

THE TIGER OR THE WOLF— IT WAS HARD TO IMAGINE EITHER OF THEM WERE ON MY SIDE.

THIS IS TOTALLY RIDICULOUS.

THE SURPRISE OF HARUHI SUZUMIYA I : END

TO BE CONTINUED

THE MELANCHOLY OF HARUHI SUZUMIYA

17

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English translation © 2013 by Hachette Book Group, Inc.

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Yen Press
Hachette Book Group
237 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10017

www.HachetteBookGroup.com
www.YenPress.com

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First Yen Press Edition: December 2013

ISBN: 978-0-316-32234-8

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

BVG

Printed in the United States of America